

The Mining Journal

RAILWAY AND COMMERCIAL GAZETTE

FORMING A COMPLETE RECORD OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF ALL PUBLIC COMPANIES.

[The MINING JOURNAL is Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper, and for Transmission Abroad.]

2135.—VOL. XLVI.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JULY 22, 1876.

WITH SUPPLEMENT. PRICE SIXPENCE. PER ANNUM, BY POST, £1 4s.

JAMES H. CROFTS, STOCK AND SHARE BROKER,
No. 1, FINCH LANE, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.
Established 1842.

Business transacted in all descriptions of MINING Stocks and Shares (British and Foreign), Consols, Bonds (Foreign and Colonial), Railways, Miscellaneous, Insurance, Assurance, Telegraph, Shipping, Canal, Gas, Water, and other Shares.
Business negotiated in Stocks and Shares not having a general market value.
Business in COLLIERIES and IRON Shares, and in the principal WAGONS and FACTURING COMPANIES of the NORTH of ENGLAND and SCOTLAND.
Business in all the principal COTTON SPINNING Shares.
J. H. Crofts, having now established CORRESPONDING AGENCIES in all the Towns of the United Kingdom, is prepared to deal in the various LOCAL Stocks and Shares at close market prices.
Accounts opened for the Fortnightly Settlement.
Monthly and Daily Price Lists issued.

Bankers: City Bank, London; South Cornwall Bank, St. Austell.

DEALING IN THE FOLLOWING, or part:—
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 30 Emma, 15s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 10 Exchequer, 28s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 15 Flagstaff, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 10 Frontino, £2 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 50 Gt. West Van, 9s. 3d.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 Glenroy, £2 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 15 Hingham, 15s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 I. X. L., 20s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 100 Javal, 6s. 6d.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 Llanrwst, 20s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 Marke Valley, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 North Laxey, 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 New Rosario, 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 25 N. Quebrada, £2 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 40 Old Trebuturg, 5s. 9d.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 Postarena (ordy), 5s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 10 Pennant, £4 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 25 Parys Mountain, 15s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 50 Penstruthal, 16s. 6d.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 10 Pennerley, £1 11s. 3d.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 10 Pateley Bridge, 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 50 Prince of Wales, 6s. 9d.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 50 Plynlimmon, 6s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 10 Richmond, £2 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 5 Roman Gravel, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 50 Rookhope, 15s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 25 Santa Barbara, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 50 Sweetland Creek, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 60 Van Consoles, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 25 ditto (pref.), £2 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 10 West Asheton, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 25 N. Quebrada, £2 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 Wh. Grenville, £1 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 50 West Wye Val., £2 10s.
Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 20 Yorke Peninsula, 3s. 6d.

SPECIAL BUSINESS IN POSITIVE ASSURANCE SHARES.
Shares sold for forward delivery (one, two, or three months) on deposit per cent.
Business on hand in all the principal TIN, COPPER, and LEAD Shares.

RAILWAYS.—SPECIAL BUSINESS. Fortnightly accounts opened on receipt of the usual cover.
JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

FOREIGN BONDS.—ARGENTINE.—EGYPTIAN.—RUSSIAN, TURKISH, SPANISH.—SPECIAL BUSINESS, and latest information.
JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

COTTON SPINNING SHARES.—These steady and remunerative Securities (comparatively little known on the London Market, but largely held in the manufacturing districts) can be bought at the present time at very favourable prices to pay good dividends on the capital invested. The following Shares (Oldham Mills) are amongst the safest and best of their class:—

Name of Mill.	Nom. amount of Share.	Paid up.	Last dividend.	Closing quotations.
Central Spinning, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Devon Great Consols, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
East Van, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Exchequer, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Flagstaff, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Frontino, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Glenroy, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Glyn, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Great Laxey, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Great West Van, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
I. X. L., £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Llanrwst, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Marke Valley, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
North Laxey, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
New Quebrada, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Old Trebuturg, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Parys Mountain, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20
Pateley Bridge, £5	£2 10 0	20	£ 3 10 0 to £ 4 (cum div.)	20

* The accounts of all the above companies are made up quarterly.
JAMES H. CROFTS, 1, FINCH LANE, LONDON.

R. WILLIAM H. BUMPUS, STOCK AND SHARE BROKER,
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SPECIAL BUSINESS, at close prices, in the SHARES of all the principal HOME and FOREIGN MINES.

Accounts opened for the Fortnightly Settlement on receipt of the usual cover. References given and required when necessary.

A STOCK and SHARE LIST sent FREE on application.

BANKERS—The NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK OF ENGLAND, E.C.

BUMPUS directs particular attention to

MINING INVESTMENTS.

Is in a position to give reliable information and advice respecting the same.

ON SALE, at prices annexed:—

Aberdeen, 11s. 9d. 25 Frontino, £2 10s.

Argentine, 12s. 6d. 15 Glyn, £3 11s. 3d.

Blue Tent, £2 10s. 5 Glenroy, £2 10s.

Condes of Chili, 10s. 6d. 50 Great West Van, 9s. 3d.

Central Van, 31s. 100 I. X. L., 21s.

Chapel House, £2 10s. 100 North Laxey, 17s. 6d.

Eberhardt, £2 10s. 25 Prince of Wales, 7s. 6d.

East Van, £2 10s. 20 Pennerley, 34s.

Exchequer, 37s. 10 Pateley Bridge, £3 10s.

Exchequer, 37s. 60 Penstruthal, 16s. 6d.

The following should be bought at present low prices, as they are likely to be a considerable rise before long, viz:—

Argentine, Blue Tent, Condes of Chili, and Parys Mountain.

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Parys Mountain, Wheel Grenville, Wheel Crebor, and Prince of Wales shares daily recommended.

MESSRS. HARLAND AND CO., STOCK AND SHARE DEALERS,

225, 226, and 228, GRESHAM HOUSE,

OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Bankers: London and County Bank

MR. W. MARLBOROUGH, STOCK AND SHARE DEALER,

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Buyers. Sellers.

Asheton, £ 7 1/2 to £ 8 1/2. Pennerley, £ 1 1/2 to £ 1 3/4.

Birdseye Creek, 10s. 15s. Penstruthal, 15s. 17s.

Carn Brea, 35s. 38s. Plynlimmon, 4s. 5s.

Chapel House, 25s. 28s. Prince of Wales, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 6d.

Devon Great Consols, 3s. 3s. 3/4. Richmond, 9s. 9 1/2.

Eberhardt, 8 1/2 to 9. Roman Gravel, 14 1/2 to 15.

East Caradon, 1s. 1 1/4. Rosa Grande, 13s. 15s.

East Van, 1s. 1 1/4. Santa Barbara, 1s. 1 1/4.

Exchequer, 37s. 38s. San Pedro, 1s. 1 1/4.

Flagstaff, 15s. 16s. South Condurow, 4s. 4 1/2.

Frontino, 25s. 26s. Sweetland Creek, 5s. 5 1/2.

Glenroy, 4 1/2 to 5. Tankerville, 9 1/2 to 10 1/2.

Glyn, 3 1/2 to 3 3/4. Tincroft, 18s. 18 1/2.

Great Laxey, 17s. 17 1/2. Van, 38s. 37.

Great West Van, 11s. 13s. West Asheton, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4.

I. X. L., 20s. 21s. West Chiverton, 17s. 18s.

Ladywell, 14s. 15s. West Tankerville, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4.

Llanrwst, 14s. 15s. Wheel Basset, 10s. 12s.

Marke Valley, 15s. 16s. Wheel Crebor, 2 1/2 to 3.

North Laxey, 15s. 16s. 6d. Wheel Grenville, 3 1/2 to 4.

New Quebrada, 3 1/2 to 3 3/4. Wh. Kitty (St. Agnes), 2s. 2 1/2.

Old Trebuturg, 5s. 6s.

Parys Mountain, 12s. 6d. 15s.

Pateley Bridge, 3s. 3 1/2.

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HOW AND WHEN TO INVEST—PANICS: THEIR CAUSE AND EFFECT.

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Transact business in all kinds of Stock Exchange Securities, also in Mining Shares of every description; and will give any information respecting them on application.

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Bankers: Alliance Bank.

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(Established 1845.)

BUSINESS transacted in all kinds of STOCK EXCHANGE SECURITIES, also in every description of BRITISH and FOREIGN MINING SHARES.

SPECIAL BUSINESS in the following:—

East Van, 1s. 1 1/4. Llanrwst, 14s. 15s. Argentine, 12s. 6d.

Grosvinon, 10s. 11s. Emma, 10s. 11s.

Glenroy, 4 1/2 to 5. Plynlimmon, 4s. 5s.

West Chiverton, 17s. 18s. East Lovell, 14s. 15s.

West Wye Valley, 15s. 16s. Old Trebuturg, 5s. 6s.

West Pateley Bridge, 3s. 3 1/2. Aberdaunt, 10s. 11s.

MR. CHARLES THOMAS,

MINING AGENT, STOCK AND SHARE DEALER,

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49 WEST CRAVEN MOOR, 20 VAN.

55 GREAT WEST VAN, 60 PLYNIMMON.

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Apply to Mr. ASHMEAD for a copy (free) of the Half-Yearly Share List, as contributed by him to this Journal of July 15.

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Business transacted in every description of Marketable Securities, including Railways, Funds, Tramways, Banks, and British and Foreign Mines, at the closest market prices of the day.

C. C. and Co. are prepared to deal, either as Buyers or Sellers, as per annexed quotations:—

Buyers. Sellers.

Asheton, £ 7 1/2 to £ 8 1/2. Penstruthal, 15s. 17s.

Cathedral (New Issue), 28s. 30s. Roman Gravel, £ 14 1/2 to £ 15.

Devon Great Consols, 3s. 3 1/4. Richmond, 9s. 9 1/2.

Eberhardt, 8 1/2 to 9. South Condurow, 4 1/2 to 5.

East Van, 1s. 1 1/4. Tankerville, 9 1/2 to 10.

Emma, 10s. 11s. Temple, 2s. 2 1/2.

Glyn, 3 1/2 to 3 3/4. Tincroft, 18s. 18 1/2.

Great Laxey, 17s. 17 1/2. Van, 38s. 37.

Great West Van, 11s. 13s. Van Consoles, 14 1/2 to 15.

North Laxey, 15s. 16s. 6d. West Asheton, 1 1/2 to 1 3/4.

Parys Mountain, 12s. 6d. 15s. West Chiverton, 17s. 18s.

Pateley Bridge, 3s. 3 1/2. Wheel Kitty, 2s. 2 1/2.

Pennerley, 13s. 14s. West Pateley Bridge, 5s. 5 1/2.

Specially recommended for Investment:—Great Laxey, Glyn (working on the Van lode), Van, Cathedral (in the rich Gwynnapp copper district), Pateley Bridge, Penstruthal, West Pateley Bridge, and Parys Mountain.

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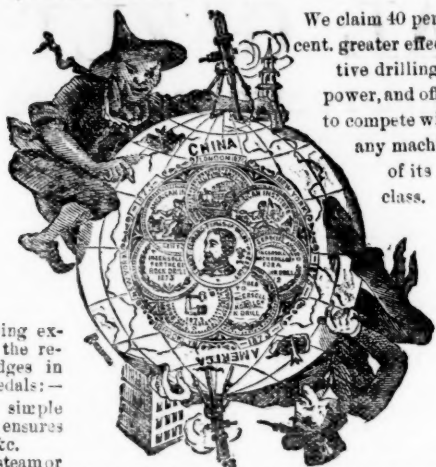
Daily Price List of the Funds, Foreign Stocks, Railways, Mines, and Miscellaneous Companies forwarded on application.

C. C. and Co. have the very best facilities for advising upon Mining Investments, having agents in all the principal mining districts of Cornwall, Wales, Devon, and the Isle of Man.

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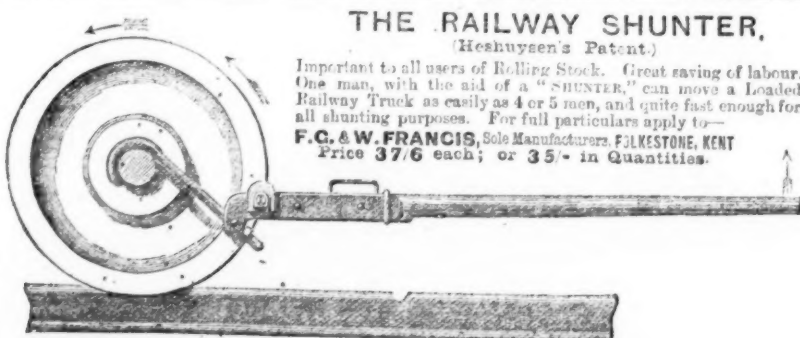
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- 4.—It is impossible for the miner to tamper with it with impunity.
- 5.—All the above improvements can be adapted by Messrs. Landau to any other lamps at present in use.

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Royal School of Mines.**PROF. SMYTH'S LECTURES ON MINING—No. XXXVII.**
[BY OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.]

Having considered the preliminaries leading us to the working of stratified deposits, and especially the working of coal, we may now consider some circumstances in which they are worked on the post and stall, or pillar and room, or stoop and room, system, which consists of open spaces (stalls or bords) of certain width between certain solid masses, which are termed pillars, or stoops. This system is very frequently employed in our own country and on the Continent. The antiquity of it is no doubt very great, because it will readily occur to you that if you saw the outcrop of a regularly bedded mineral, it would naturally be the case that you would make an opening of such a width that the roof would not require special support; and then, if you want to set more men on, you would have an intervening pillar, and make another opening at a little distance. The opening out of a new district on this method could be seen not long ago in the Cleveland district, near Middlesbrough. The openings were pushed into the side of a great hill, and as they advanced in of course the width of the pillars became less. The question resolves itself into this—What length of ground can be opened by means of these galleries or bords, and what width of pillars will it be necessary to leave?

We may refer, first, to the case of the working of building stones, on a somewhat similar method, except that in such case, the rock being strong, the pillars are usually left of small size. This may be seen in the quarries of Egypt and Hindostan. The pillars there are rectangular, and sometimes, if the ground is not very firm, the openings are made arched. The catacombs of Paris and Rome, and the caverns of Maestricht, have been wrought on a system not unlike this. There is nothing more striking, and more worth study by the student, than the working of the Upper Silurian limestone in the neighbourhood of Dudley, which has for many years supplied the flux for the ironworks of Worcestershire and South Staffordshire. At Dudley, where the limestone dips deep, access is had by means of a shaft and cross-cut; chambers are then opened in it 60 yards wide, leaving pillars between 6 yards wide, which are dug through at intervals of 8 yards, for a distance of 8 yards; thus the pillars will ultimately stand in series each 6 by 8 yards. Another remarkable instance to be seen in our own country is that of the quarries at Box, near Bath. In this case the stone being strong, the angle of dip moderate—almost flat—and the character of the rock such as renders it capable of being cut with a saw, there is a degree of regularity such as is scarcely to be seen in any other workings. The headings, or galleries, are 25 ft. wide, and are crossed by others, leaving pillars between about 12 ft.; the height of the stratum varies from 8 to 20 ft. in the district. As mentioned before, they use a very long handled pick in these quarries for the holling, and then cut away the rock with a saw; the pillars are left permanently for support. At the salt mines at Northwich, in Cheshire, as a rule the bed is about 14 or 15 ft. thick, and the openings are no less than 25 yards in breadth, a rib being left between 8 yards in breadth, which is again cut through at intervals. The tenacious character of the salt is remarkable; the lecturer had measured openings 30 yards wide, where there was no pillar to support the roof, and not a crack was visible. It is almost useless to leave these walls if they are afterwards to be abandoned to the water, and made into mere tanks of brine: the whole surface of the district is being changed that it is a serious question what should be done. Only two or three of these mines are still working, the salt being usually obtained from brine. Another instance of pillar working, in which a few pillars do a large amount of work, supporting large openings between them, is to be seen in the neighbourhood of Festiniog, in Wales, where the slate quarry passes from an open to an under-ground working. The chambers there are 15 yards broad, sometimes more, and the pillars between are of similar thickness. In consequence of the enormous waste of valuable substance left in these pillars, it becomes a question whether they are to be left as permanent supports for the roof, or left only to be removed more or less at some future time.

We may pass now to this system as more applicable to coal, and to seams of ironstone, as in North Yorkshire, where, however, the strength of the ground renders the pillars smaller than in generally the case in collieries. The history of the pillar and bord system is admirably illustrated in some of the works which have been published by the intervention of Committees of Parliament appointed to enquire into cases of explosions, especially those in 1835, 1848, and 1853; as also the reports prepared by Prof. John Phillips and Mr. Blackwell as to the desirability of Government inspection. The subject, as a whole, resolves itself in the first place into the question whether we are to consider the pillars as intended to be left for the support of the roof, to enable us to get away all the coal we can, or whether we are to look on them as being reserves of coal which we are to get out by proper means, when a suitable time comes. By this latter method, when the pillars are properly proportioned, it may be that the larger proportion of the coal will be gained, whereas by the old method (that is to say, the former of the two) it was by no means an unusual thing to find that 50 or 60 per cent. of the coal was lost. In some of the comparatively shallow workings in Durham this old method may be found still, where the coal is apt to become small in the pillars, and to be affected by oxidation. Three headways, or courses, are driven on the end of the coal, about 30 yards apart, and these are crossed by the bords, which in the shallow workings may be four yards broad, with a pillar of 1 yard between to support the roof. It will be necessary to widen the pillars at the end, making the entrance to the boring only 2 yards wide, otherwise the roadways will very soon be crushed. When greater depths began to be attained it was found that pillars of neither 1, 2, nor 3 yards were sufficient to resist the pressure, which would tend to crush the whole system of these workings; or, what was still worse, sometimes a creep would be shown. Then pillars of 3 yards would alternate with bords of 4 yards wide, and unless the floor and roof are very unsatisfactory, you may hope that 4 yards will be quite sufficient, except at very great depths. But when it came to such collieries as began to be opened out at the end of last century in the neighbourhood of Newcastle, larger dimensions were required. About the year 1795 Mr. Thomas Barnes commenced as a regular system the taking away of some of these pillars, and pointed out that they should, in the first instance, be left of extra size, in order that they might not be injured. In the commencement of these operations they were very cautious, and could obtain but a very small proportion. The method they attempted was to put in some strong stopping, and then to cut portions off the pillars at both ends. In this case you might expect the roof to fall in, and therefore destroy the roadway, hence it was necessary to commence these operations near the boundary. It then became a question whether you could dare to interfere with the neighbouring pillars in this way, or whether it would let down the surface, as it probably would in shallow workings. Various methods of cutting the pillars were adopted; sometimes they took away the end of the pillar, at others they took a slice off each side, at others, again, a bord was driven through the central part of each pillar, or in some cases only a little of the middle part was taken.

When Mr. Buddle, supported by Mr. N. Wood, took up the question he found that a very large proportion of the mineral could be saved by these means, and very soon the percentage of coal obtained rose from 39 to 54 per cent., and then to 80 per cent. in some cases, when they could work off the intermediate pillars. At the same time another plan was introduced by Mr. Buddle, which was of high

importance. He showed that running over the whole ground with these bords and headway courses was not an advisable plan; that you had then tens of thousands of yards of workings left open to the influence of the air, and therefore oxidising at the same time that they were feeling the pressure from above. This tended to make the mineral lose its proper consistency and strength, and when you came to work it you found it more or less damaged. It was proposed, partly on account of the ventilation, partly to prevent this damage to the coal, that only a limited area should be worked at a time, that when you had got a certain portion of ground thus broken by these bords, you should proceed to get the pillars. Mr. Buddle's plan, in fact, was to divide an extensive royalty into areas which should be termed panels, and this was termed panel working. Between the panels there will be strong ribs of coal, from 40 to 60 yards thick, and having between them and the main lines of the roughfare three large ribs, so that you have a mass of coal intended to be worked only towards the close of operations, separating the panel from the others. Meanwhile as the workings passed down from the outcrop to deeper parts of the coal field it became necessary to leave a larger and larger mass on the first working, so that it is now common to work away only one-third part of the coal at first, leaving two-thirds in the pillars to be worked afterwards. When they get down to the neighbourhood of the North Sea, and intend to work out beneath it, pillars of unusually large size are left, in some cases 40 yards square, and in the Monkwearmouth Colliery, at a depth of 300 fms, pillars of even greater dimensions. In the Whitehaven collieries a very remarkable difference is observable between what is done now for working in the most economical way and what used to be done: then pillars used to be 10, 12, or 15 yards square, now they are 20 yards square, with openings of 5 yards breadth. In working the iron ores of Middlesbrough these bords may be frequently of 4 or 5 yards in width. In some cases, where there is any difficulty about the roof, they must be narrower; these are crossed by headways somewhat narrower, leaving the pillars 20 by 6 yards.

The division of the whole area into these panels renders it possible to introduce the pillar working soon after the commencement of the narrow working; and then it becomes a question how far the use of safety-lamps and of open lights is consistent in the same division of the colliery. We shall find that while the pillars are being got we are subject to extremely heavy falls from the roof, and also to large volumes of gas being liberated, therefore it would be exceedingly insecure for the working there to go on without the use of safety-lamps being rigidly enforced. It is different in working the whole coal; there in most cases open lights may be used, in connection with a due system of ventilation, &c. Where both open lights and safety-lamps are employed in the same district, the workings should never be nearer together than three pillars, and due precautions should be taken to prevent anyone with an open light passing into the safety-lamp district. When there are several seams of coal, one above another, it becomes a question which would better be worked first, for it is found that where they are within a moderate distance of each other the working in one seam affects the others; sometimes the working in the upper would be prejudicial to those below, sometimes it seems that no harm is done. There is a very good paper by Sir George Elliot in the Transactions of the Northern Institute, which treats of this subject. As a general rule it is supposed to be better that the upper seam should be worked, and the ground allowed to settle, before the lower seam is opened. The pillars will be removed by the assistance of packwalling, or the stuff which falls from the roof built up into walls in certain places, and by the aid of suitable timbering, and much will depend upon the quickness and skill of the men employed. In some cases it may be necessary to begin to remove the pillars at once; sometimes as much as half is left. In the Mostyn Collieries there are 4 yards pillars and 4 yards openings. This may be the case where it is desirable to remove at once the sum total of the coal which it is desired to take out, and then to give up the work altogether.

INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS.

The summer meeting of the members of this Institution was held on Tuesday, in the Lecture Theatre of the Midland Institute, Birmingham. Mr. Thomas Hawksley (president) presided. [There were also present—Messrs. F. J. Bramwell (ex-president), Edward A. Cowper, J. Read, D. Adamson, F. W. Webb, C. Cochrane, Maw, E. Rich, Abel, W. P. Marshall, &c.] The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said that owing to his long-continued absence abroad he had been unable to prepare the address which it was customary for the president to deliver at the opening of their annual meeting. He did not propose to shirk the obligation placed upon him—the delivery of the customary address—but he thought it would be more advantageous to them, as well as preferable to himself, to deliver on a future occasion a carefully considered written address than to trust to ordinary oral delivery, especially as he proposed to make reference to important statistics connected with the mechanical engineer. He was sorry to announce the decease of two of their most valuable members—Mr. Robert Napier, of Glasgow, and Mr. Byran. He was quite sure they would all agree with him that it was desirable in both cases to pass a vote of condolence to the families of both gentlemen. (Heard, hear.) The proposition was unanimously adopted.

Mr. W. P. Marshall (secretary) read a paper prepared by Mr. William E. Rich (London), on "Dynamometers, Friction Brakes, and other Testing Apparatus belonging to the Royal Agricultural Society of England." The writer stated that the consequence of the summer meetings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and the Royal Agricultural Society at Birmingham this year afforded a fitting opportunity for laying before the Institution a description of the most important and testing apparatus belonging to the Royal Agricultural Society. He said he thought it right to claim from his fellow-members a due recognition of the immense debt which engineers and agriculturists all over the world owed to the Royal Agricultural Society for the admirable series of engine and implement trials which it had carried on annually with so much spirit and perseverance for the last thirty years. No other public body had ever done so much, or spent so much, on trials of machinery of any kind, and it would be well if other societies or Government departments would only consider the wonderful effects which those trials had had in improving agricultural machinery, and would try to emulate the society in other branches of mechanical industry. No one could deny that the present degree of perfection was due to the publicity and thoroughness of the society's trials; and one could not but reflect on the numerous benefits which the English Admiralty authorities would confer on marine engineers and the commerce of the world if they occasionally made equally exhaustive and careful trials with marine engines of different types, and published the results in extenso. The paper then referred at great length to the three more important instruments belonging to the society, which were classed under three heads—1. Traction dynamometers, for measuring the draughts of implements and vehicles drawn by horses or otherwise.—2. Friction brakes, for absorbing the power developed by steam-engines and other prime movers by uniform frictional resistance.—3. What were commonly called rotary dynamometers, which registered the amounts of power that must be transmitted to various machines from external sources in order to work them.—A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Rich for his paper, and a brief discussion followed.

The Secretary next read a paper "On Mechanical Puddling," by Mr. T. Russell Crampton, London. The author said that the operation required considerable intelligence and excessive labour, and it was the successful combination of those two elements which constituted the great difficulty, as evidenced by the high wages that good puddlers could command. Although the requirements for good puddling were apparently so simple, manual labour was not to be depended upon for that purpose, consequently mechanical puddling had been called into requisition. Sufficient had been established to enforce the conviction that puddling by the revolving chamber was superior as compared with hand puddling or other rabbling, as not only were the yields increased, but the quality of the product was most strikingly improved. The most careful efforts had been made to obtain equal results by hand from like material, but in every case the rotary puddled product was the best. A number of drawings were suspended in the theatre for the purpose of giving a general idea of the various arrangements proposed. It was stated by the author that in his furnace, where the firing was done mechanically, little skill and no exhaustive labour were required. In order to show the effects of the two systems of making iron there were laid on the table a series of samples, consisting of plates and rails, some produced by the best known makers by the usual process of building up small pieces, and others made from one homogeneous puddle ball.—A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Crampton, and the meeting adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning.

The meeting was resumed on Wednesday, with a further discussion on Mr. Crampton's paper "On Mechanical Puddling." Mr. W. P. Marshall (secretary) read a paper prepared by Mr. Francis Preston,

of Huddersfield, "On McCarter's Condenser without Air-pump for Steam-Engines." The writer stated that many attempts, with varied success, had been made to introduce a condenser without an air-pump, but he believed there had been no successful application of a condenser without the aid of an air-pump, and capable of lifting its own injection water, previous to the one which formed the subject of the present paper. The construction and working were then explained by a number of diagrams. The condensers had been successfully at work upwards of five years, in conjunction with engines from 12-hp. cylinders to 37 inch cylinders, giving every satisfaction, effecting a considerable saving in coal, besides giving much steatier motion to the machinery, caused by the regularity of the working of the condensers, without the great strain being put upon the engine through the ordinary air-pump at every revolution of the engine. Illustrations were next given of the successful applications of the condensers. In one instance it was stated that the engines had done more work in the mill than in any other month, with a regular speed and with greater ease, besides saving fuel in money value amounting to 33 per cent. The paper concluded with reference to a recent calculation made by Mr. James Wood, engineer, of Barnley, in which a comparison was made as to the relative volumes of steam expended in the working of an ordinary air-pump and the McCarter condenser, in an engine at Messrs. Croxley and Sons' Albion Mills, Halifax. Mr. Wood's report showed that there was a difference of 1161 lbs. degrees of heat in favour of the condenser, or equal to 25 per cent., a percentage which must not be considered as showing the whole economical advantage which existed over the ordinary air pump.

After a brief discussion, a paper by Mr. Bernard P. Walker, of Birmingham, was read "On the Frisbie Fire-Feeder and Grate for Boilers and Furnaces." The object of this apparatus is to supply the fuel at the lower surface of the boiler and furnace fire, instead of at the upper surface. It was stated that the system of firing by inserting the fuel from beneath presented the following advantages:—1. The fire was not reduced in intensity by the cold fuel damping the flame when thrown on the upper surface of the fire, so that the evolution of smoke from this cause was completely avoided. 2. Each successive charge of fuel was lifted up and most effectively poised in the furnace by the admission of a large volume of cold air when the fire doors were opened for stoking was avoided. 3. A smokeless flame was readily attainable with a thick fire, although using smaller fuel than could be employed in ordinary furnaces, with a maximum intensity of heat. One of the furnaces had been in constant work for nearly four years at Spring Hill Rolling Mills, Birmingham, where it had proved thoroughly satisfactory. Mr. Walker, in conclusion, stated that from 30 per cent. in steam engine boilers to 60 per cent. saving in cost of fuel in reverberating furnaces used for smelting nickel, had been effected by its use.—At the close of a short discussion, a vote of thanks was passed to the Chairman, and the proceedings in connection with reading and discussion of papers terminated.—The members of the Institution then made a visit to the Small Arms Factory, Small Heath; after which they dined together at the Royal Hotel, Temple Row.

On Thursday, a section of the members of the Institute visited Dudley and the neighbourhood. The party, numbering about 100, called en route at Sandwell Park Colliery, where they were received by Mr. Henry Johnson, sen., and Mr. Henry Johnson, jun., and shown over the surface of the colliery. The new engine just put down, at a great cost, was started for a few moments, for the first time, to give the party an opportunity of witnessing its action. The party then proceeded to Dudley per rail, and from the station to Lord Dudley's celebrated Lye Cross Pits by omnibus. At the colliery situated in Rowley Regis, Mr. Edward Fisher Smith (Lord Dudley's principal mine agent) met the party, and welcomed them in the name of his lordship. He also introduced the party to Mr. Thomas Latham, the local agent, who had had the management of the sinking and laying out of the works from the commencement, and his son, Mr. Richard Latham. The party, in bands of eight, lost no time in descending what is, without exception, the finest coal pit in South Staffordshire. The parties were greatly interested by the admirable manner in which the magnificent plant has been laid down. The journey from the surface to the bottom, 280 yards, was accomplished in from 17 to 22 seconds. Mr. E. F. Smith afterwards entertained the company at a sumptuous repast (in the name of the Earl, at the residence of Mr. Robert Smith, Turner Hill). After the meal the usual loyal toasts were given, and Mr. E. F. Smith gave "Success to the Institute of Mechanical Engineers," in which he spoke highly of the efforts of the society. Mr. Bramwell, who sat on his right, responded, and proposed in return "The Earl and Countess of Dudley." The toast was drunk with loud cheers. Mr. Bramwell also, in a very humorous speech, proposed the "Health of Mr. E. F. Smith," whom he described as a most able prime minister to the immense realm on which they sat. The toast was also drunk with cheering, and Mr. Smith responded. As the party left the tent to visit the Hatfield Quarry (Rowley Regis stone) they tendered a hearty and unanimous vote for Lord Dudley's hospitality. Later in the afternoon the party went from Dudley to Round Oak, where they visited his lordship's ironworks and furnaces. They were received and conducted by Mr. R. Smith Casson, and the gas-heated furnaces and the Casson Dornay puddling furnaces fully explained.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—THE IMPLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

The annual exhibition of the Royal Agricultural Society, opened at Aston, near Birmingham, on Monday, has much of considerable interest in the implement department. The show yard, one of the best the society has ever had, is about 70 acres in extent, the implements filling several miles of shedding. There are nearly 400 separate exhibitors showing upwards of 6400 separate articles. There are very few novelties to be seen, but an excellent opportunity is afforded for judging of the relative merits of the machines of similar classes exhibited by different makers. The steam engines and hydraulic appliances shown by Messrs. Tangye Bros., of the Cornwall Works, Birmingham, are very attractive. The steam pumps adapted according to size for various uses, from that of boiler-feeders to fire engines and deep mine pumps, are mostly upon Messrs. Tangye's "special" principle, which is new thoroughly well known and appreciated. They also show a new implement—Tangye's Patent Compound Direct-acting Steam Pumping Engine (Cherry's patent)—for water-works, main drainage, mines, docks, sewage works, and for all purposes where considerable power and economy of fuel are essential. Among the advantages of this machine are that the steam is used expansively, the cylinders are the shortest possible, there are no gudgeons, shafts, fly-wheel, or eccentric.

The exhibits of Messrs. Hayward Tyler and Co. are not less interesting. They show a very handsome 8-horse horizontal engine, with variable automatic expansion, giving good regulation of speed; a deep mine pumping engine, with self-governing differential gear, working at 140 lb. water pressure; a large portable irrigation engine, which did good service last year at Burton in clearing the flood water from the cellars of one of the large breweries; and an American novelty in the shape of a hot-air engine. The latter engine—the Tyler engine—is worked by the alternating heating and cooling of air, and has a nominal half-horse power. It is applicable to any purpose for which limited power is required; it is equal to pumping 700 gallons per hour to a height of 50 feet; it is perfectly safe; and as there is a large demand just now for engines of small power it will doubtless obtain a large sale. The stand occupied by Mr. H. R. Marsden of Leeds is, of course, occupied by stone breakers, of which there were three. The larger of these is an improved Blake's stone breaker, on wheels, of the same pattern as that employed by the Birmingham Corporation. Since the purchase of the corporation machine, however, improvements have been made in the cubing jaws, which may now be reversed or replaced upon the lower portions becoming worn, thus making them last longer. The form of the teeth has also been improved, to better fracture the stone.

In connection with the manufacture of iron mention should be made of the exhibit of Messrs. Clough and Co., of Stockton-on-Tees, as it contains, among other implements, a Clough and Rileigh's patent rabbling puddling machine. This machine is intended to be applied to double furnaces. It is erected upon the top, and attached to a laterally-oscillating beam are two arms, which have on their ends two rollers. The arms are attached to the rollers, which are moved backwards and forwards in two directions, just as they would be by manual labour. A large number of these machines are in use in the North of England, and one is also in operation at Messrs. Lee and Bolton's, Stourbridge. Messrs. Newton, Chambers, and Co., of the Thorncliffe Works, Sheffield, exhibit two kitchen ranges and a patent automatic machine for drying night-soil and other matters, together with mills for grinding manures. The drying machine, which combines mechanism with heating arrangements, may repay the attention of sanitarians. If it be fitted with an apparatus for destroying any fumes from excreta, and when so furnished would form a desideratum in many public nightsoil departments. Messrs. Brown and Stewart have a varied show of implements, consisting chiefly of portable steam engines of various powers, thrashing machines, vertical engines, hay and straw elevators, &c. All are of very improved make, and are exceptionally effective in their operation. An excellent display of portable and vertical engines is made by Messrs. Davey and Paxman, of Colchester, and they also show a novel and simple water heater, which is well worth inspection.

Root's Safe and Sure Boiler is exhibited by the Patent Steam Boiler Company, of Birmingham: it is claimed that by ensuring perfect circulation of the water in the boiler the effects saving of fuel, and renders explosion impossible. In connection with steam engines, reference should be made to the exhibit of Messrs. Ransome, Sims, and Head, consisting of their Head and Schenlioth's patent straw-burning engine, for burning straw, reeds, cotton, maize, mustard stalks, sugar-cane refuse, &c., as well as coal or wood, fitted with a new patent automatic expansion governor. They also show an 8-horse power expansion engine, with double slides, double pump, and feed-water heater, capable of developing nearly three times its nominal power, and consuming only about 4 lbs. of coal per horse-power per hour. There are, in addition, two of Messrs. Ransome's ordinary engines of 6 and 8 horse power, which appear to be thoroughly good and serviceable, and well adapted for every-day work of the farm. Messrs. Foster and Co., of Lincoln, show an 8-horse power steam engine, fitted with double expansion valves, driving a thrashing machine, to which is attached an improved smutty screen. Messrs. Wallace and Stevens, of Basingstoke, have several very good portable engines, the chief characteristic of which is that they are fitted with an enlarged fire-box for wood fuel, and a cleverly arranged water heater. Their thrashing machines also possess many improvements. Mr. E. Humphries, of Pershore, shows a variety of thrashing machines, with double blast finishing apparatus; some excellent horizontal and vertical steam engines, and a variety of articles useful to the farmer.

The Pulometer, which revivifies a multi-centuries-old for the raising of water, is well represented in the exhibit of Messrs. Hoaglin and Neuhaus. It would be satisfactory to know the quantity of water lifted 1 ft. high by the consumption of 112 lbs. of coal, when this apparatus is used in order to compare it with the Cornish engine. In estimating cost it would, of course have to be considered that no engine is used with the pulometer, but the test experiments show a considerable saving. The invention is more fully described in another column of this Journal. The Grey Iron and Wagon Company, at Stand 315, have on exhibit some high-class portable steam engines in operation, and several thrashing and finishing machines of excellent quality. Messrs. W. and S. Eddington and Co., of Charniford, show a portable steam engine and a thrashing machine; and at the next stall,

Messrs. Nalder and Nalder, of Wantage, Berks, display 4, 5, 6, and 8-horse power thrashing and finishing machines of their well-known make. Messrs. Brown and May, of Devizes, have a number of high-class portable steam-engines. Messrs. Robey and Co., of Lincoln, have a first-class show of machinery. Amongst their latest inventions may be mentioned the Robey traction-engine. The chief merit in this locomotive is that the working parts are supported independently of the boiler, and thus much strain is avoided. In addition, the firm show some good fixed and portable engines, with many improvements, and an excellent single-cylinder engine. Messrs. Turner, of Ipswich, show a vertical engine, fitted with their improved regulator, consisting of a governor, which is combined with a starting valve, acting as a throttle valve. This governor acts and reacts instantly on the steam supply, and ensures regularity of speed, and economy both in the use of steam and in the consumption of fuel. Messrs. Piercy and Co., of Broad-street Works, Birmingham, have, in addition to twelve very excellent steam-engines, which are shown in operation, a large Cornish boiler in use, to the furnace of which is affixed a patent stoker of very peculiar kind. The fuel is placed in a hopper on the exterior of the boiler, and thence it passes through a crusher, and on to two horizontal plates, which are so moved as to lightly scatter the fuel over the entire surface of the fire. Thus the opening of the furnace-door is rendered unnecessary, and an even and perfect combustion is secured, there necessarily being an avoidance of smoke. The "stoker" possesses other advantages, not the least of which is that of effecting economy.

The principal exhibits of Messrs. May and Mountain, of Birmingham, are the patent direct-acting steam-pumps, invented by C. T. Colebrook, and manufactured by the exhibitors. The power of these pumps is, of course, proportionate to their size, but it may be stated that one of them, with a 4-in. steam cylinder, a 2½-in. water cylinder, and 18 in. stroke, will raise 700 gallons per hour, the traveling speed of the piston being 110 ft. per minute. This pump stands on a space of 5 ft. 4 in. long and 18 in. broad. The construction is extremely simple, and the working parts are very few in number. This firm also show a six-horse power vertical boiler with a small pump, upon the same principle as the larger one, applied as a boiler feeder. Mr. S. Lewis, of Poole, exhibits a handsome little engine of a class that has proved very efficient in use, and has given great satisfaction. Messrs. J. Evans and Sons, of Wolverhampton, make a large display of hand-pumps—the largest in the ground—and they also show three sizes of their reliable steam-pumps, especially adapted for farm use. It has only one valve, and its action is reversible, so that, in pumping manure or sewage, the suction pipe should become choked a moment's reversal of a handle will cause the obstruction to be expelled. Messrs. B. and S. Massey, Openshaw, Manchester, show half a dozen steam-hammers of small size, especially adapted to the use of engineers and agriculturists. These hammers are Messrs. Massey's specialities, and are both self-acting, and self-reversing. Centrifugal pumps are shown by Messrs. Williamson Brothers, of Kendal, and by Messrs. Tuxford and Sons, of Boston. Messrs. Ward and Co., of Great Bridge, exhibit improved mortar-mills, in which the most noticeable feature is a very effective contrivance in the shape of independent spindles to each roller for the purpose of avoiding the irregular strain and uneven wear occasioned in older mills in consequence of the rising of the rollers over hard substances. It is claimed that the wear and tear is not more than a tenth of that in mills of the ordinary construction.

Messrs. T. Bradford and Co., of Salford, show in action a variety of their washing machines, including a steam-washing machine capable of washing 200 shirts at a time, and another of a quarter the size, and also a radial drying clock. The latter is exhibited in operation, and its noticeable features are its rapidity and great economy of fuel. Messrs. Bradford likewise show a steam-box mangle, and a steam caudle for ironing fine articles, such as tablecloths. Mr. W. G. Bagnall, of Castle Engine Works, Stafford, shows a new brickmaking machine (Stubb's patent). This machine is intended chiefly for impure and stony clay, and will turn out about 18,000 pressed bricks per day, the press requiring only two lads, one to feed and the other to remove the bricks. On the same stand are three stationary engines and some steam-pumps, to the construction of which considerable thought appears to have been given. A good collection of the emery wheels manufactured by the Mitchell's Emery Composition Wheel Company, Manchester, are exhibited. The object of these wheels is to do more rapidly various operations for which files are now used, and effect considerable saving in time and materials.

The patent self-acting feed apparatus attached to the engines exhibited by Messrs. R. Hornsby and Sons, of Grantham, are well worthy of attention; and Messrs. Marshall, Sons, and Co., of Gillingham, display many attractive novelties. In the first place, they have a greatly improved traction engine, fitted with steel gear. The portable engines are of a very improved kind, one being fitted with a patent variable expansion apparatus of much cleverness and effectiveness. Their thrashing machines have reached a high stage of perfection. Messrs. Clayton and Shuttleworth, of Lincoln, as usual, make a conspicuous show. Their steam engines are of the well-known improved kind, whilst the perfect operations of their thrashers and elevators are widely appreciated. In addition they display a self-contrived "clever," for dusting the wheels of agricultural machines. Messrs. R. Berryman and Co., of Birmingham, show a portable engine of 2-horse power, a donkey steam-pump, and Berryman's patent universal expanding tubular fire water heater. This heater avoids the disastrous results of grease in steam boilers, and increases their safety and durability. It makes a saving in coal of 20 per cent. Mr. J. C. Scott, of Manchester, shows his wheel moulding machines, which are worthy of special attention from engineers and ironfounders. This machine is for the purpose of forming the moulds for casting cog wheels, and the nicety of its adjustment and mathematical accuracy of working render it a thoroughly artistic production. The machine is adapted to mould wheels of all descriptions, up to 4 ft. diameter; it entirely dispenses with change wheels, pentagraph plates, primers, and back lash, and is applicable for wheel-cutting, wheel dividing, and setting out of circles.

MINING AND METALLURGY AT THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION—No. II.*

NORWAY embraces iron, nickel, cobalt and silver in its metallurgical contribution. The impressive feature is a trophy erected by the Cathrineholm Iron Works, representing an ancient ship or "viking," the prow and deck being of plate iron, and the mast and the spar are formed of hammered bars of various sizes. On either side of the mast are ladders made in imitation of rope of knotted and twisted bar iron, bent cold to show its elasticity and strength, and they are really remarkable. On the deck of the "viking" a mailed officer stands with a club in hand made of knotted and twisted iron; behind him is a cabin composed of a pile of various sized hammered bars, and in front of him are heavy anchor chains. The get-up of the affair is worthy of notice, and is a novel way of illustrating the product of the works. Around the hull there is quite a collection of projectiles, while to the sides of the vessel are hang round shields, ornamented with nails, spikes, punching &c. Behind the vessel is a case of various sized nails and spikes. Raw and calcined nickel ores and the products of them are displayed by the Bamble Nickel Works and the nickel works of Ringset, and the Kongsberg Silver Works exhibit a large collection of argentiferous rocks, native silver, models of nuggets and ingots, which are quite interesting. There are several fine geological maps and sections, and a number of specimens of the different rocks are exhibited in connection with the maps.

BELGIUM contributes some interesting features of mining and metallurgy, but the display is not as comprehensive as might be expected from a country producing more than one-fifth as much iron and one-third as much coal as the United States. The most prominent feature of the mining display is in Machinery Hall, and consists of an apparatus employed by Mons. T. Chandon in sinking coal shafts. This is simply an artesian well boring apparatus upon an immense scale, and is composed of the following parts:—A trepan weighing 15 tons, made of forged iron, and fitted with cutters secured by taper keys, so as to make a cut 6 ft. long. This trepan is raised about 3 ft. by steam-power and then dropped, at each lift the rod being turned so that the tool cuts out a circle 6 ft. in diameter. This sized tool has penetrated in the softer sandstones one metre per day. A massive iron bracket, or saw pump, fits into the cut thus made, and is used when the tool is withdrawn to remove the debris. After the first tool has penetrated about 30 ft. the second trepan is substituted. This is a tool constructed similarly to the first, but is much heavier, and is 16 ft. long, with a central guide working in the opening made by the first trepan. This tool has followed up the first tool at the rate of a foot per day. The presence of water does not interfere, but rather is an advantage in boring the hole; and for the purpose of recovering the tools or cutters if broken there are three tools on exhibition—A grapple for broken rods, a sweep to catch the sections of lifting bars, and a grapple to remove broken cutters or troublesome cutters. This latter is a remarkably ingenious invention, and consists of a pair of double lazy tongs, so arranged that when lowered the arms stretch to the sides of the hole, and when raised they scour the bottom, and pick up the troublesome cutter or stone. To prevent breakage, the trepan has a sliding motion on the suspending bar, thus permitting the shock of striking to be expended without injury. When the cutting is ready for lining, circular plates are let into the opening, the bottom plate or cylinder sliding inside of the second ring, and being surrounded with a moss gasket, which is compressed between the flanges, forming a means of keeping water out at the bottom. The second ring is provided with a convex bottom, and it, therefore, floats on the water. As ring after ring is added the water is allowed to escape, so as to permit the rings to sink gradually. Suitable guides keep the casing from tilting until it is finally secured upon the hard impervious strata, when the shaft is pumped out and is ready for use.

Adjoining the Chandon apparatus is an interesting exhibit of the rock-drilling car of Mons. Dubois et Frères, which was used largely in the St. Gothard Tunnel, and also employed in the great bore at Mont Cenis. It is a compact arrangement of four independent drills, operated by compressed air, placed on a carriage, and provided with

proper facilities for vertical and lateral motion, and also for rotating the drills. A model of a safety-cage for mining shafts, and some iron sills for mine railways, also form a part of the Belgian mining exhibit. These sills are flat iron bars, bent so as to form chairs for the rails at the proper gauge, the rail being secured by simply driving a wooden wedge between it and the bent portion forming the chair.

In the main exhibition building there are some fine specimens of argentiferous lead ore yielding over 80 per cent. of lead. The rest of the metallurgical display consists of sections of beam, channel and angle irons, wrought iron riveted girders, axles, rails, nails, spikes, tacks, and wire. The usual exhibition of toughness by twists and bends is not overlooked by the Belgian contributors, and one display of beams, &c., has on top of the case in large letters "delivered free on board in New York for \$40 per ton." Some of the plate iron on exhibition displays remarkable qualities, and a rack of sheet iron is to all appearances equal to the Russian sheet.—*Iron Age* (New York)

THE FAIR OAK COLLIERY, CANNOCK CHASE.

The recent discovery of coal on this estate by boring will, no doubt, render the following description of the operations and prospects of the company interesting to many of our readers:—

The property of the company, which has a nominal capital of 200,000*l.*, consists, according to a scaled computation, of 5437 acres, but in all probability, if an actual survey were made, of at least 6000 acres of the mines of Cannock Chase, which are held under lease from the Marquis of Anglesey for a term of 60 years from October 10, 1871. The surface area extends from the Walsall and Rugeley Railway on the south-east to Milford, the extreme northern boundary of Cannock Chase, on the north-west—a distance of over 5 miles in length, and it averages about 3 miles in breadth. It is thus by far the largest of the colliery properties in Cannock Chase, and in this respect is probably exceeded by few, if any, actual coal-producing concessions in Britain. At a point near the proposed new pumping station of the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company the four undermentioned colliery estates meet—the Brereton, Cannock and Rugeley, West Cannock, and Fair Oak, the two latter occupying the whole of the Chase belonging to the Marquis of Anglesey on the west side of the Walsall and Rugeley Railway, and bounding each other from Moor's Gorse to Cannock Thorn on the Old Penkridge road.

The first sod of the Fair Oak sinking was turned on Jan. 1, 1872, by Major Arden, of Longcroft Hall, and from the first 10 yards the difficulties which have so pertinaciously beset the sinking operations of the company began. The strata through which the pits were to be carried consisted of the conglomerate division of the Bunter sandstone series, and these, instead of being in their usual more or less friable condition, were found converted into concrete of the hardest and most conglomeritic description, by the remarkable introduction as the cementing material of a very high percentage of carbonate of lime, manganese, iron, copper, and lead. The conglomerates were 94 yards in thickness, and more or less inclined on one side of the shaft from the top to the bottom, thus allowing, almost without intermission, the free passage of the water which the Bunters are always so heavily charged into the shaft as it was proceeded with, and necessitating the erection from time to time of additional pumping machinery to raise it. The shaft, which is 15 ft. in diameter, was carried down through the Bunters by ordinary hand steel drills, with dynamite as the blasting agent, powder being found to have scarcely any effect upon the strata, and it will be gathered how long and how numerous were the delays which from a variety of causes accompanied the sinking and casing of the shaft, when it is understood that nearly 15 months were consumed in reaching the base of the conglomerates.

The conglomerates, which have a slight westerly dip, were found to be succeeded by a series of red, purple, greenish, and variegated clays, and marls, containing large nodules of hematitic ironstone, and followed by alternating grits, white, brown, variegated, and curiously laminated, and at times highly ferruginous sandstones, containing both animal and plant remains, all lying conformably together and dipping south-westerly for the Chase, the extraordinary angle of 75°. The sinking of the shaft was continued through these varying strata to a depth of about 80 yds below the Bunters, when it was considered advisable to bore from the bottom of the shaft; and boring operations were accordingly commenced on June 18, 1874, and continued till August 5 following. The distance bored was 141 yards, and the strata proved consisted of, first, a sandstone rock, which ultimately turned out to be 12 ft. thick, and the basement bed of the water-bearing series, followed by alternating red marls, dark clunch, and clod, and a mingled rock, together 22 yds; and succeeded by strata of the ordinary coal measure description, consisting of bluish, shales, clunch, clod, peilon, rock, ironstones, thin coals and smut, and fire clay; but at 106 yards beneath the red marls again made their appearance, associated with dark clunch and stone blinds, and further boring operations were in consequence suspended. The borings, however, showed that beneath the sandstone first struck, 107 yards from the surface, there was no water, and it was accordingly arranged to carry the shaft through this bed, which was the first met with in the sinking of sufficient solidity and thickness to support with any degree of safety the tubing with which it will be gathered how long and how numerous were the delays which from a variety of causes accompanied the sinking and casing of the shaft, when it is understood that nearly 15 months were consumed in reaching the base of the conglomerates.

Shortly after the commencement of the head boring operations were recommenced from the bottom of the shaft, and at 320 yards from the surface a spring of salt water was tapped, which yielded from a bore-hole 1½ in. diameter 33 gallons per minute. Before this, however, and soon after commencing coal gas, which burnt freely with a bright yellow-tipped flame, and was smokeless, made its appearance, and gradually increased in quantity as the hole descended. At 329 yards, and in great measure, the water was ascertained to be of the same nature as the spring of fresh water was tapped, which, together with the salt water already met with, rushed up the bore-hole even while the rods were in it, at the rate of 4000 gallons per hour, and as this quantity was too great to be dealt with except by pumps, and as it interfered with both the headings and borings, the hole was plugged and all operations were suspended on Dec. 1, 1875—or within a month of four years from the commencement of the shaft. And thus, after so long a period, during almost every day of which delays of a more or less serious nature from some cause or other occurred, the pumps were stopped, and the shaft allowed to fill with water, which did the work of the present shaft in six days, and the remaining parts in seven days, up to the natural level 11 ft. from the surface. Fortunately no fatal or very serious accident happened to anyone connected with the sinkings.

Geologically the strata have been proved at this particular point on Cannock Chase to a depth of 329 yards—251 yards proved by sinking, and 77 yards by boring—the strata of the latter consisting of alternations of bluish, clunch, rock, and red clay, with marl and mingled ground, and the proving further shows the situation of the shaft to be a ground disturbed in a most remarkable manner, and in fact presenting conditions which have never before been found associated with any originally introduced mining operations on Cannock Chase. What those conditions are it is not the intention now to discuss, nor indeed is it necessary, as they will be dealt with in a forthcoming publication on the "Geology of Cannock Chase." It is only necessary to say here that they are geologically of a most important and interesting description, and that to their existence is due the non-discovery of coal where coal was expected to be found, and the delay which must necessarily follow before the present shaft can be utilised as an outlet for the coal, which is not little doubt lies within a distance of from 200 to 400 yards on either side of it.

Previous to the closing of the sinkings and borings a spot had been selected for the boring, 1½ mile distant to the west, near the Fair Oak Tree, on the Penkridge road, running across the Chase, and in May, 1875, borings by hand to prove the thickness of the Bunters and the position of the coal there were commenced; and at the date in question—December, 1875—they had been carried down to depth of about 100 yards through the gravels and just to the level of the underlying yellow sandstones. These borings were simultaneously with the other works suspended while, and for the reason that, negotiations were being carried on between Lord Anglesey and the company for such a modification of the terms of the company's lease as would meet fairly and equitably, and be equivalent to, the altered circumstances by which the operations of the company had become surrounded. The negotiations were finally completed on this basis, and on March 11 of the present year borings were resumed near Fair Oak Tree, and arrangements made to carry down other bore-holes not far from the shaft. One of these latter is being pushed on night and day through the Bunters, at a point about 800 yards south-west from the shaft, the object being to prove the depth at which the deep coal lies before interfering in any way further with the present shaft. About midway between this boring and the shaft there are, I believe, two large dislocations, running nearly north and south, with a westerly downthrow, which bring in several of the Cannock Chase seams of coal, including the shallow and deep, and there is not much reason to doubt that the latter will here be found at about 200 yards from the surface. Shortly after the resumption of the borings near the Fair Oak Tree the base of the Bunters was reached (March 26) at 109 yards, and the upper coal measures proved to come immediately beneath. These, which consisted of red, purple, and

mingled marls and clays, led on to a coal 1 ft. thick at 119 yards, and were followed for a short distance by somewhat similar ground, which gradually passed into ordinary clunch, bluish, and shales down to 137 yards 3 ft. from the surface, reached considerably established. The borings were then continued through the usual description of strata, with thin coal seams and ironstones here and there, down to a coal at 188 yards 2 feet 2 inches from the surface, which consisted of the following section:—Coal, 1 ft. 10 in.; black parting, 3 in.; coal, 3 in.; 6 in.; coal, 3 ft.; and which there is no difficulty in recognising as the Old Man's Coal. A few feet below it was found a band of ironstone 5 in. thick, and below it, followed by ground consisting principally of bluish, and dark, and below 6 in. in the following:—Coal, 1 ft. 6 in.; parting, 3 in.; coal 4 in.; fire clay, 1 ft. 6 in. from the surface, were come upon, and on the 29th ult. boring operations ceased.

This last group of coals commences at 16 yards 0 ft. 10 in. below the Old Man's coal, and the position of the first seam corresponds with the usual section of the Chase measures, but, taking the group together, the seams are divided by a thickness of ground than is found to be the case at the Walsall and Rugeley and other places. The thin coals found on the Chase, and the fact the interstrata with which they are associated, seldom or ever correspond in number or thickness between the fixed coals, in whatever district they may be pierced. An partial or even entire absence from their usual position, are matters of course, and geological sense, have no influence whatever upon the existence, thickness, quality, or general condition of the fixed and identified coal seams by which the whole of the Cannock Chase series of recognisable and reliable coals is determined. The result of these borings, therefore, is to determine conclusively enough for all practical purposes, that at this particular point beneath the Old Man's coal, and their existence is without doubt a fact, and by the usual thickness, quality, position, and condition of those coals found elsewhere. It is a matter well known in connection with mining operations on the Chase, that where any one coal has been struck, and its position identified as overlying however much or little in point of distance the Shallow and Deep coals, and this is a course arrived at from the simple fact that they are always found, even if at times occupying a somewhat varying distance apart, they are considered as those characteristics in regard of thickness and quality which are possessed of lessness in working, make them so valuable to the producer and so largely sought by the consumer.

The coals which underlie the "Old Man's Coal," and which from the fact of their having been and still are in different localities being worked, are nine in number, some of which are more or less adapted for every purpose for which coal is required—and represent a total thickness of 45 feet of the coal. Whether or not the whole of these will ever be worked here or over the Chase generally is a question which time and circumstances will alone answer. At present, and this will no doubt be the case while they last, the efforts of the producer are confined principally to the deep and shallow seams, which are at the same time the deepest and the most valuable of the Cannock Chase series. To reach these the deepest the others have, of course, to be passed through, and this operation affords the opportunity for ascertaining exactly their quality and thickness, and also other serviceable particulars of the different ironstones and fire-clays with which they are associated, for future information. The deep and shallow coals are naturally enough, from the enormous quantities raised, becoming dry by day, and exposed to the demand made upon them, the next best coals will either have to be worked back upon or those seams followed at a considerably increased cost of production to the west, north, and east, beneath never-ending extensions, and stretching far beyond the present manorial boundaries of the Chase. In so-called the area thus known will no longer retain its exclusively valuable mineral character, but, this, nevertheless, is a condition which will require the advent and departure of more efforts result in producing double the present quantity of coal raised for consumption, there being at least 300,000 tons of the deep and shallow coals alone untouched within the area of Cannock Chase, and consequently there need be no fear, for the present at least, of the decline of the country or the depopulation of the district for want of fuel.

Returning, however, to the subject more immediately under consideration. Between the point known as Deakin's Grave (about three quarters of a mile north-east of the West Cannock, No. 1 plant) and the Fair Oak borings there is a fault of little less than 200 yards downthrow to the north. This is evident in the fact that at Deakin's Grave the Brooch coal, which occurs at the West Cannock pits 35 yards from the surface, was reached in a well sinking at about 20 yards, and merely covered up by drift and gravel. At the Fair Oak borings the same 19 yards of Bunters, 77 yards of coal measured down to the "Old Man's Coal," and it is 15 yards below that seam that the geological fault occurs, which the West Cannock pits commenced—the Brooch lying about 50 yards below the latter seam, thus showing a difference in the level of the coals at the two points of 20 yards. This being the case it follows, as the Brooch coal lies on the south side of the Chase, at about 280 yds above the Deep coal, that the latter coal will be proved at the Fair Oak borings at from 480 to 500 yards from the surface. The occurrence of this fault is, therefore, primarily of the greatest importance, inasmuch as to its existence is due the preservation and favourable condition of the strata to the north, west, and east. The general dip of the strata of the Cannock Chase measures is westerly, but in numerous local cases where approaches to faults the dip varies with every point of the compass. The dip of the coal in the West Cannock pt. approaching Deakin's Grave, is south-west, and rising, therefore, northwards towards the fault in question. Had there been no dislocation between the two points, and the inclination of the measures maintained, both the Deep and Shallow coals would have here lain within 100 yards of the surface; and if the Bunters had instead of a fault been brought in by a gradual overlap the basins of those coals into the overlying beds would shortly have taken place, and the coals themselves have become the conductors to so large an extent of the water contained in the Bunters as to render mining operations if not impracticable, at least impossible without the erection of very powerful, and, therefore, of course, costly pumping machinery, and which even of this character would be liable to be overpowered at any moment.

The borings, therefore, show:—Firstly, that in this, the most northerly point of the Cannock Chase area where coal has been discovered, the coal measures are intact from top to bottom; secondly, that they are succeeded by the Bunter sandstone and the Peble-beds, without the intervention of the so-called "dislocation" of the more southerly parts of the field; and, thirdly, that this condition has been in no way interfered with subsequently by any denuding agency. There is no other section on the Chase which, taken geologically, illustrates in so clear and interesting a manner the original relation of the coal measures with the overlying New Red Sandstone, nor has any other yet been met with where the coal measures have not been upheaved, and more or less subjected to denudation, both previously and subsequent to the deposition of the Bunters. These are facts of the greatest importance, and they bear most intelligently upon the question of the prolongation and gradual increasing development of the coal measures in the direction of the Chase in this direction a question which will eventually be solved in the discovery that in this northern area of the South Staffordshire coal field that thick mass of red, brown, and purple rocks and marls which, up to Essington on the one side and Aldridge on the other, are held as Permian, are absorbed by, or, more properly speaking, pass into and are represented by the few feet of "red and mingled ground" which immediately succeeds and comes between the Bunters and the first coal; that this condition obtains generally in this part of the Chase, and that they are lying within its surface boundaries the west side of the Rugeley and Walsall, and the virgin coal field many thousands of acres in extent, of which the Fair Oak Company may be sure of possessing at least 5500 acres, containing the whole of those valuable coal seams already enumerated, and in the presence of which rests the origin of numerous and growing centres of mining and manufacturing industry, and the congregation of a population to be reckoned by thousands.

—*Staffordshire Advertiser*. WILLIAM MOLLER.

NEW PUMPING PROCESS.—A novel experiment was commenced on Friday with the 80-horse power engine in Portsmouth Dockyard. It was with a new pumping process, by which the inventor, Mr. R. M. Marchant, of Hatton Garden, undertakes to return saturated steam to the boiler of any engine, instead of condensing steam from the condensers. In other words, after the steam has exerted its power in the cylinder, the manufactured article itself is to be taken up and re-pumped into the boiler so to be used afresh. Mr. Marchant claims for his invention that he is able to re-pump steam into the boiler without any expenditure of fuel beyond that which is required to overcome the mere friction of the pumps, and without subjecting them to pressure. The inventor contends that by the law of gases the pressure exerted by steam on one side of the piston represents by its elastic power, as in the case of the distance of a spiral spring, the same expression of power in pressure on the other side of the piston; so that the elastic charge is always ready to give back the power expended to the purpose of its expression. Consequently, if Mr. Marchant's reasoning be correct, he expects to be able to re-pump steam into the boiler the equivalent of the power expended on the pumps, and so to apply the steam again to power. It, therefore, follows that, inasmuch as returning boiling water into the boilers saves the cost of re-boiling it, to return steam into the boiler will save the far greater cost which is expended in manufacturing it. It is as steam cost 75 in the 100 of the fuel which is consumed in its production, the saving which will be effected by the successful application of the principle will be great.

ELECTRICITY AND GOLD.—Mr. Henry Marshall, of Penrice, Agaston, writing to an Australian paper, says:—"You published a letter of mine last year from the London Mining Journal 'On the Development of Gold by Electrical Agency'; and in reference to this I will mention that there are some specimens of quartz crystal (transparent ones) in the Melbourne Mining Museum containing gold in the centre. When quartz is heated it loses its transparency and becomes opaque; therefore, how was this gold formed in such circumstances? At our Lady Alice Mine gold is found in sulphate of copper. Heat sufficient to produce gold from a base must have been present in the process of roasting copper ores of this nature. Gold was found at Tarrengeton in galena or sulphate of lead, and in the Melbourne Museum is a specimen of malachite with crystals of gold embedded. How could there have been anything to do with these? I have also seen a large piece of transparent quartz with tin ore in the centre, and I have a similar specimen with crystals of sulphate of iron or manganite in the centre. A friend in Adelaide sends me the following:—"A friend on the Victorian diggings was once at a place where some holes had been sunk with very poor results. He made a pile of a hill. On but before leaving he went to look at this place. It was on the foot of a hill, and he noticed a tree which had been struck by lightning. He took a foot some quartz cropped out, and this showed the stroke, being split. He took a fancy to try the ground at the foot of the hill, in a line with the tree, and he found the result was he took out 2 lb weight of gold to a bucketful of stuff. He supposed the lightning had something to do with it." The largest nugget of gold Victoria has been found in a peculiar kind of red ferruginous clay, with a small gold about; and in the Ural, when the miners find a large lump in a small abandoned spot, they know they will not find any more. The production of gold in crystals in moist clay, saturated with solution of sulphate of copper, with a vanadocurrent passing through it, as in Mr. Robert Hunt's experiment, has relation to this; and the crystals, octahedral of copper ore found in the Kapunda Mine, which

* No. 1 appeared in the Supplement to the Mining Journal of July 8.

BRITISH MINES.

BRITISH MINES.

and he is a thorough going mining engineer and expert—one whose opinion is worth any attention. He of the Mountain. He left on this morning's stage for Virginia City, where he will look at the bonanza mines, and then on to Colorado. Manager O'Hara, who will look at the Eschschuer Mine and Mill, has perfected his arrangements for the Eschschuer Mine and Mill, and Mr. O'Hara will arrive here next week with a corps of men to commence work. With the completion of this furnace we look for the inauguration of better times in Alpine. —Alpine Chronicle (June 24).

FOREIGN MINES.

ST. JOHN DEL REY MINING COMPANY (Limited).—Advices received June 30, 1876, ex Morro Velho, June 1:—The produce extracted from the mineral treated during the second division of May, being a period of 11 days, is as follows:—

	Oils.	Tons.	Oils. per ton.
From mineral treated	14,449.0	2057	7.024
Retreatment	1,068.0	—	—
Total	15,517.0	2057	7.543
Equal to	1788.6271 ozs. Troy	—	—
Equal to	1788.6271 ozs. Troy	—	—

The foregoing is a little better yield from the mineral than was obtained in the first division of May, though not so good as was extracted in the second division of April.

The general health of the establishment continues to be pretty good. During the past week, however, we have several cases of influenza and bronchitis, demanding prompt medical treatment.

Advices received July 17, 1876, ex Elbe (s.), dated Morro Velho, June 17:—

GENERAL OPERATIONS.—Throughout the past fortnight our general operations have been carried on without any interruption, excepting that caused by the regularity of the attendance of our free borers by the observance of some holidays. The attendance on the whole has been rather higher than heretofore, and the general work of the establishment has been steadily prosecuted during the above period. As yet we have a very fair supply of water for working the general machinery both in the mine and at surface.

PRODUCE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY.—The produce extracted during the month of May has amounted to 43,328 cits. It has been derived as follows, viz:—

	Oils.	Tons.	Oils. per ton.
From mineral stamped	40,186.5	5554	7.235
Retreatment	3,142.3	—	—
Total	43,328.8	5554	7.800
Equal to	43,328.8 ozs. Troy	—	—

Nearly 500 tons more mineral have been reduced in May than in April, and the standard yield is lower 7.8 ton, as against 8.045 obtained in April, still the produce is higher by 233 tons.

COST AND PROFIT.

The produce for May being 43,328.8 cits.

Deduct loss melting into bars 290.1

43,038.7, at 7s. 9d. per oil. = £218,671 13 8

Cost 7,002 11 2

Profit for May £209,669 2 6

The cost for May is upwards of Rs. 2000 more than it was in April. The exchange is 1/2 higher, and against the account for May, though from larger produce, it shows an increased profit of about 6500.

MINERAL DEPARTMENT.—A moderate amount of work seems to have been performed in this department in May. In the latter part of the month stopping down the mine from the sides some what retarded the sinking.

During the past fortnight a full force has been employed on the timberwork, and some considerable labour spent in the improvement of the kilns which are in operation. The stopping of the mineral from the sides of the excavation is being continued with an increased force of borers, which have been obtained since the 15th May.

The driving westward has been continued pretty regularly, but no attempt has yet been made to open out the mineral in that section. The more imperative mine work, clearing down the walls of the excavation, concentrating all practicable forces on the timberwork, and the improvement of the haulings ways in the excavation, demand as much attention and force as we can supply, keeping in view at the same time the raising of mineral for the supply of the stamping mills.

The subject of opening out the mineral in the western section of the mine shall not be lost sight of, but the above duty, until we augment a little more our mine force, presents us with more pressing and urgent work.

The mine, as I have already stated, is much in arrears, is an all-important part of the mine duty, and therefore demands immediate attention.

RESECTION DEPARTMENT.—The stamping mills have been pretty fairly supplied with mineral since the beginning of the month, and though not driven at a fast rate the stamps have so far been kept steadily at work.

A separation of the mineral is being effected with the view of affording better opportunity for the treatment of the ore, and there is very much mixed mineral and a good deal of kiln, necessarily quarried with the poorer mineral, now being taken down from the sides of the mine walls.

GOLD EXTRACTED TO DATE.—The produce extracted during the first division of June, being a period of eight days, amounts to 12,331.2 cits. It has been derived as follows:—

	Oils.	Tons.	Oils. per ton.
From general mineral	11,467.0	1253	9.93
Retreatment	864.2	—	—
Total	12,331.2	1253	9.911
Equal to	1421.5866 ozs. Troy	—	—

The above is rather better produce than was extracted in the first division of May, and considering the large proportion of mixed mineral now being received from the mine, the yield, on the whole, may be considered satisfactory.

The gold produced was dispatched from Morro Velho on June 13 with 18 boxes containing 85 gold bars, weighing in all 84,052.9 ozs.—507.493 lbs. Troy. N.B.—The gold has duly arrived.

The following telegrams have been received:—

On June 29, dated Rio de Janeiro 19th.—"Produce, eight days (first division of June), 12,331.2 cits. Yield, 9.911 cits. per ton."

On July 1, dated Rio de Janeiro 6th.—"Produce, 11 days (second division of June), 12,331.2 cits. Yield, 7.1 cits. per ton."

On July 17, dated Rio de Janeiro 12th.—"Produce, 30 days (month of June), 12,331.2 cits. Yield, 7.7 cits. per ton."

RICHMOND CONSOLIDATED.—Telegram: Week's run, 962,000.

R. Richmond, June 30: The shaft is down 100 ft. below the 900 ft. level, and we shall sink 1 ft. more for a well before beginning the station for the 900 ft. level. The ground in the 800 ft. drift is harder than it was last week, still not hard enough to prevent us from making good progress in drifting. We have not begun sinking, as intended, on the small body of ore struck in the 800 drift, as there is not air enough to work more men than required for working the main drift. Nothing new in the 700, and the slope is about the same. The cross cut in the 600 has struck a very good body of ore of high grade, and we are now working on it. This will increase the value of the ore, and consequently the out turn of the furnace. There is no alteration in the slopes, they are looking about the same. The mine on the west side of the hill is still in ore. We have sunk about 30 ft. in ore below the 700 ft. level, and the bottom of the mine in good ore.—Sinking: The ore smelted during the former part of the week was of very low grade, it has improved, and the furnace will do better work than they have for several days past.

GOLD RICH.—J. A. Stone, June 29: My last letter to you was on the 26th inst. since which I have made fair progress, but not so good as I formerly have done in the Miner's Ditch Company's mine. I have had run well as formerly. I have lost considerably by having to slack up and run clear water to clear the sluice. The Miner's Ditch Company put their iron ripples too far apart, and I fear their sluice never will run well until they take them out and put them in closer. I think they will have to do it. I shall change my waste water to morrow, and run it through the old Little Giant, which is set, so I can throw the water down to the head of the mine. I expect to wash the shaft down within the next two weeks, and then there will be but little danger of filling after that.

CEAR CREEK (Gold and Water).—Telegram from superintendent: Total returns for month \$18,750; total running expenses for the month, \$10,750; Yankee tunnel driven during the month, 130 ft.

CEAR CREEK.—Col. T. B. Ludlum, June 22: The Pacific claim has continued washing without interruption. We are now running on the reservoir ground. All previous runs this season, excepting the first one, were made on the Holmes' claim. The Gold Run claim also continues washing, and is working to very good advantage. The gravel is not rich where we are now washing, but is of such a character that we can recover it very rapidly. The Central claim is still idle, as a realisable more profit at the present by using the water elsewhere. I expect, however, to resume washing therein in a few days. The Yankee and Balger claim (I am running them as one) is not doing very well. The gravel on the run, as I have often written before, is very poor, so much so that the parties who drifted the claim found this so unprofitable that they left it, and we are not yet enabled to wash the claim owing to the immense rock sill coming down so fast. All, however, is being done there. The water, powder, and labour can do. We are washing but ten hours per day. The Yankee Tunnel is being driven with all possible speed. The rock last week became quite hard again, but has since improved, and is now quite favourable. During the week ending June 17 we worked 10 shifts, fired nine face shots, and advanced 26 ft.—The Baker Shaft: The work on this shaft has been carried on since the 1st of the month. The hoisting and pumping machinery is in place, the pipe is laid, and everything ready for sinking without delay. Thus far we have only worked one shift in the shaft, but I intend to commence with two shifts Monday next.—Water Supply: Our main ditch is carrying its full capacity; our lower ditch, however, as I have before written, are dry, and our supply is limited to our main ditches, the water from which I am utilising where it is most profitable.

ERHARDT AND AURORA.—The directors have received 20 silver bars, valued at \$4000.

JAVALI.—The directors are in receipt of advices from their manager, under date June 29: During the last month the mill worked 23 days, crushing 1520 tons of quartz, yielding 1772 ozs. of gold, at an average of 5 dwts. 15 grs. per ton. The remittance is valued at \$1100. The expenses were \$684, including 60¢ on capital with the working of the new steam engine, and hopes soon to be able to make better remittances. Labour is somewhat scarce. It is expected that the tailing mill will be ready by the end of July.

SANTA BARBARA (Gold).—Mr. H. H. Keane, Paris, June 12: During May 1098 tons of mineral were stamped, yielding 3321 cits. per ton, or a total of 33 7/10 cits. of gold, valued at \$5.64. per oil, amounts to 1549.19s. 6d. as the estimated value of the produce for the month. The mine working cost for the same period was, at Exchange, 2554.4, 099. 6s. 1d., thus leaving an estimated profit of 1549.19s. 6d. for May. The capital expenditure during the month for Santa Barbara, 5 stamps, and new power house amounted to 1711 16s. 2d. Mine: There has been a slight change in the aspect of the mine since the previous month. The shaft was sunk 1 ft. 2 in. during May, the level in the north end of the shaft being 8 ft. wide, and much disordered by hornblende and quartz. In the No. 3 shaft, the level is 8 ft. wide, and producing fair quality stone. In the adit and No. 3 shaft, the level is 10 ft. wide, but the upper part of No. 3 shaft was disordered by water, owing to its being intermixed with hornblende and kilas. The quantity of stone raised during the month amounted to 1362 tons, of which

264 tons were rejected as refuse stone, and 1098 tons treated at the stamps. Average quantity of stone raised per borer for the month, 26 tons.

CHONTALES CONSOLIDATED.—The directors have advices from their manager, dated June 5, who reports: We have treated during the past month 523 tons of ore, from which we have obtained 112 1/2 cts. of gold, being an average of 4 1/2 dwts. per ton. The cost for the month has been 40¢, yielding 112 1/2 cts. of gold, showing a loss of 11¢. The amount included in the above cost and fairly chargeable to construction account is 7 1/2 s. We have saved during the past month about 119 tons of partially concentrated tailings, which will give a profit, when treated, of 83¢. The irregular supply of labour, owing to threatened war, has retarded our work greatly during the past month. As the rainy season is now setting in again I hope to give more favourable returns next month. There has been only one important change during the past month. In the No. 3 level at Estrella, which has opened out well, and contains a payable amount of gold. The mine we have been putting down in the bottom of San Sebastian and level 1 have suspended for the present time, owing to having some heavy showers lately. There is a magnificent lode in the bottom, and rich in gold. I have opened also a new place (San Felipe); it is the eastern portion of Santo Domingo lode; the quartz is poor, but when we want quartz in the rainy season it will be a great help. I have had some men working at Consuelo deep level. We have been putting in new guides in the stamps, re-fixing the coffer, trimming the tappets, and re-roofing a portion of the Santo Domingo mill. The water has been very slack during the greater portion of last month.

SAN PEDRO.—Wm. Phillips, June 1: The 150 end driving through the Mantos, south of west, by four men, at \$15 per metre; this end is nearly solid with ore, but so much mixed with mud that it will only produce 1 1/2 ton of 10 per cent. ore per fm. This end is the most solid we have seen since the change, and from the nature of the ore I judge we have very good indications of cutting solid bronze in depth. The 122 is without change. The 110 is also without change. The slope in the back of the 88 will produce 7 tons of 20 per cent. ore per fathom, and is 12 ft. wide and 30 ft. long. The slope in the bottom is not so productive, as we have got into soft ground mixed with black sand and pebbles; will now produce 4 tons of 23 per cent. ore per fathom. The ore when dressed is of better quality than when hard. We have on an average about 20 men employed during the month in the back and bottom. The chifon sinking between this level and that above, by the side of old works, by two men, at \$7 per metre; is producing good stones of ore. In the 47 the chifon sinking by side of old works, by two men, at \$8 per metre; has improved since my last, and will now produce 1 ton of 25 per cent. ore per fathom. The 30 is without change. The 150 end driving through the Mantos, south of west, by four men, at \$15 per metre; this end is nearly solid with ore, but so much mixed with mud that it will only produce 1 1/2 ton of 10 per cent. ore per fm. This end is the most solid we have seen since the change, and from the nature of the ore I judge we have very good indications of cutting solid bronze in depth. The 122 is without change. The 110 is also without change. The slope in the back of the 88 will produce 7 tons of 20 per cent. ore per fathom, and is 12 ft. wide and 30 ft. long. 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M R . J . S . M E R R Y
ASSAYER AND ANALYTICAL CHEMIST,
SWANSEA.

Notices to Correspondents.

* Much inconvenience having arisen in consequence of several of the Numbers during the past year being out of print, we recommend that the Journal should be read on receipt; it then forms an accumulating useful work of reference.

GUNPOWDER.—In our report of the North Staffordshire Institute of Mining Engineers, last week, there was an error in Mr. Greenwell's remarks. He said he thought that the powder which possessed the greatest bursting power, and not the quickest propelling power, was most suitable for mining purposes.

SHARE DEALING.—We never interfere in the sale or purchase of shares; neither do we recommend any particular mine for investment or speculation, or broker through whom business should be transacted. The addresses of most of the latter appear in our advertising columns.

Receipts.—"Shareholder" (Glasgow).—"M. N."—"Reader" (Leeds). It shall be seen to—"T. W. A."—"Correspondent"—"Miner"—"Shareholder" (Cambridge). The particulars you require are given in Mr. Ashmead's British Mining Share List, in the Supplement to last week's Journal—"An Adventurer" (Leeds).

THE MINING JOURNAL.

Railway and Commercial Gazette.

LONDON, JULY 22, 1876.

TRADE PROSPECTS.

The Earl of DERBY's assurances to anxious deputations as to the course which the war between Turkey and Serbia is likely to take, so far as it affects the great European powers, made by his lordship, in his official capacity as Foreign Secretary, has had a steady effect upon the tone of the leading business exchanges throughout this country. Such peaceful assurances have come at altogether the right time. Trade upon every hand required that it should be said we are not as a nation likely to be embroiled in a great continental war, the end of which it would be altogether impossible to foresee. The iron trade, for instance, might perhaps in some of its departments benefit for a while by such a calamity, but in respect of the country's trades as a whole great damage would result, and amongst all the end of the strife would be signalled by inevitable and serious prostration. Even by the short sighted, therefore, war was denounced. Colliery owners and ironmasters, cotton spinners and lace makers, importers and exporters of almost every class of goods throughout the complicated machinery of British commerce and manufactures, are all longing for a steadiness of expectation and view of a much brighter aspect than any which would follow upon an embroilment in the disputes between the SULTAN and his Serbian subjects.

This steadiness of expectation will be largely promoted by what the Foreign Secretary has said to Mr. BRIGHT and his friends, who formed the deputation, to whom, on Friday last week, the Earl of DERBY replied. The importance of the views expressed on behalf of the Government is increased by reason of the splendid harvest prospects, over which the nation is now rejoicing. Perhaps there was hardly ever a more abundant hay harvest than that which will soon have been wholly ingathered throughout the length and breadth of our land. If all goes well the corn harvest will be hardly less gratifying. It needs not that we should here enlarge upon the immense benefit to the trade of England which results from plentiful harvests. The three recent unfavourable ones have done much to contribute to the dulness of business which has prevailed throughout more than half the period which those harvests represent. It would seem as if another such corn harvest as that of last year would, coming at such a time as the present, result in scarcely other than disaster in numerous circles. The abundance and cheapness of money would have but little effect in checking such an issue. But with peace established upon a firm footing, with a plentiful harvest, and with cheap and abundant money, there ought to be a widely prevalent assurance that we have nearly turned the corner of the proverbial long lane through which we have been so wearily plodding.

If we are not mistaken we already discern signs of nearness to that much to be desired point. The very low prices to which the chief useful metals have descended are beginning to bring about that effect which was looked for from such a cause. Alike at home and abroad, we hear of large undertakings having been determined upon which will certainly consume very great quantities of iron, both wrought and cast. We should have no difficulty in particularising some such home undertakings if at this juncture the publication were allowable. Presently our readers will, by the information which will reach them through the usual channels, see that what we say is quite correct; but we must not forestall. We are, however, in a position to call attention thus prominently to that with which many of our readers are already familiar. South America is not universally prosperous, because it is not everywhere so peaceful as it might be. Where belligerent sentiments prevail and operate, there we have depression and impetuosity. That portion of South America which is under the rule of the Emperor of BRAZIL cannot be classed within this category, although even the Emperor of BRAZIL might benefit by a little more attention to those qualities—prudence and forethought—which have done so much to bring about the prosperity of the European nations. Whilst, however, the counties about the River Plate would find it hard work to negotiate a good loan, to be expended even in local improvements of a substantial order, Brazil is able to enter the market and get money for such uses, perhaps, at no very great trouble. Hence, it comes about that Glasgow ironfounders are engaged casting upwards of 80,000 tons of pipes, and therein are executing an order variously estimated as representing from 1,500,000 to 2,000,000 sterling. The Brazilians have, to our knowledge, been a long time contemplating this undertaking. It is a serious one, and embraces the bringing of water to Rio over a very long distance. The best time for placing the order by reason of the price at which it can be placed having now come, and the terms upon which the money to pay for the work can be obtained having equally touched the most advantageous point, the order has been accordingly placed. Side by side with this foreign work we have to place that for home use, represented in the 35,000 tons of steel rails for which tenders have been sent in to the directors of the Great Western Railway Company this week.

The Great Western Railway Company were as thoroughly convinced that economy would consist in replacing that extent iron with steel rails two years ago as they are now, but steel rails two years ago were not to be had at the low figure at which they can now be purchased. It would be unfair to Sir DANIEL GOOCH to assume that he could not see coming on that case in quotations which we have all had to note, and it would be equally unfair to assume that the able Chairman of the Great Western Railway Company has not satisfied himself that it would not be prudent for his board of directors any longer to remain out of the market. Sir DANIEL GOOCH has, we think, determined wisely. It may possibly come about that within the ensuing few months slightly lower quotations may rule for steel rails than are now in vogue; it is equally possible—nay, perhaps likely—that higher quotations may rule. At present, however, whether we are to look for higher or lower quotations, orders for steel rails are sadly needed by the makers. For 35,000 tons of steel rails, to be delivered before the end of 1877, producers will accept rates which, in our view, make it highly prudent on the part of the Great Western Railway Company to place their specification at this juncture. The effect of the two orders we have quoted, and which are known to all observers of what is going on in the iron and steel market, combined with what leading engineers and manufacturers are aware is on the *topis*, is increasing the conviction of men who are amongst the most influential and far-seeing of those whose business conduct is thought to be most worthy of imitation that the time has arrived to begin buying iron and steel without the fear that the quotations hereafter soon to prevail will accuse them of premature haste. It is easy to understand that with the anticipation of undisturbed peace, and the abundant promise of a splendid corn harvest, together with a plentiful supply of cheap

money, it were strange if men of mercantile and business note should avoid talking of the not remote return of a prosperous business time throughout the industrial world. Financial news wanting in cheeriness is being communicated relative to a firm or two in the iron trade who are just beginning to show how great has been the strain upon them of the late dull trade; but the trouble will be limited application, and in no way affects the prospects here sketched.

RAILWAY PROSPECTS.

The present prospects of the railways of the United Kingdom and its colonies must be a matter of some concern to the iron trade. After all, it is the railway interest which is the mainstay of the iron trade, and when the railway interest languishes the iron trade must languish also. The leading home railway companies cannot be said to have had a very brilliant time of it during the first six months of 1876. They have profited to some little extent from cheaper coal, but they have had to deal with very stagnant times, and their revenue has lost by consequence its elasticity, so that it has either remained stationary or has actually fallen off. As capital accounts have a tendency to constantly expand, a larger amount of profit will be required to maintain ordinary stock dividends for the past half-year at even their former level, and this larger amount of profit will not, it is to be feared, be forthcoming in scarcely any instance. This is, *prima facie*, discouraging, and is little calculated to induce a vigorous policy of extensions and renewals. On the other hand, the price of rails having now fallen to a more reasonable level, directors may be induced to purchase them more freely. Upon the whole, it seems probable that this will be the case, since although home railway profits may be a little smaller than before, home railway credit was probably never stronger than it is at present. The small investors of the country have discovered that there is no medium through which they can obtain a readier utilisation of their savings than the debenture, preference, and ordinary stocks of the great railways of England and Scotland; and this conclusion having been arrived at, the supply of new capital at the disposal of railway boards is practically unlimited.

With regard to colonial railways, they have of course, *per se*, a much weaker and more uncertain credit. Colonial railway construction is a "leap in the dark" to a far larger extent than the establishment of a new line in the Mother Country, which is in almost every quarter far richer and more populous. Investors in Canadian railways have learnt the truth of the principle which we have just enunciated, and learnt it, too, in the most severe and rigorous fashion. A Canadian railway is too generally an *ignis fatuus*, which only leads investors on from loss to loss, and Canadian railway credit is just now, accordingly, very weak. But the case is otherwise with the guaranteed railways of British India and Australasia. In our great eastern and Antipodean dependencies the State steps in, and either induces capitalists to undertake the construction of railways through the attraction of a guarantee of interest, or it issues its own straight bonds, and makes for itself the railways of which it contemplates the establishment. The consequence is that investors in Indian and Australasian railways do not lose their capital, either in whole or in part, as they too often lose it when they engage in Canadian ventures, and the effect of this will be that Indian and Australasian railway enterprises will be prosecuted more steadily and systematically than Canadian. Victoria has recently decided to raise nearly 1,400,000, more to provide for the execution of sundry railway extensions, and this week New Zealand has also decided—although not without some little apparent difficulty—to place a 5 per cent. loan for 1,250,000, which will be principally devoted to the construction of New Zealand railways. The fall in the price of rails must encourage the prosecution of more Antipodean railways. If this does not prove to be the case, we shall have fallen upon very strange times indeed, and all past experience will be belied.

FOREST OF DEAN COAL AND IRON TRADES.—When the depressed condition of business renders the reduction of workmen's wages imperative the disposition is too frequently displayed to circulate groundless rumours concerning disputes and difficulties in the monetary transactions of local firms employing labour, and we much regret that something of this kind has led our Forest of Dean Correspondent in last week's Journal to send us an erroneous statement, which must, doubtless, have caused great annoyance both to the GREAT WESTERN IRON COMPANY and to the BILSON AND CRUMP MEADOW COLLIERIES COMPANY; we, therefore, take the earliest opportunity of correcting any false impression that may have been caused. It was stated that the latter company was enforcing a claim against the former, which was, moreover, pressed in another direction for a still larger amount, although in the same paragraph our Correspondent demonstrates the improbability of the rumour by expressing surprise that the hostility of creditors should be necessary. "As the Great Western Iron Company is reputedly a strong one, and the enterprising spirit evinced by it in the purchase and improvement of the property and its subsequent business pluck have won for it much praise." As a matter of fact, the entire statement was a fabrication, as will be evident from the subjoined letter which Mr. John L. Whitley, the trade manager of the Bilson and Crump Collieries Company, has been kind enough to send us:—

SIR,—In your last week's paper there appeared a statement from your Forest of Dean Correspondent of some rather serious complications between ourselves and an enterprising firm of ironmasters in this district. Be good enough to contradict this in your next, as there is not the slightest foundation for such a report.—Yours obediently (for Bilson and Crump Meadow Company),

Bulio Pol, Newsham, July 15. JOHN L. WHITLEY, Trade Manager.

It is scarcely necessary to say that the executive of the Great Western Iron Company are much annoyed that such a statement should have obtained currency, but we trust this correction and the consideration of the wages dispute pending at the time will convince them that annoyance was not intended.

MINING BOARD EXAMINATIONS.—The annual examination of the South-West Mining Board was held at Bristol from Monday, the 10th, to Friday, the 14th inst. Mr. Harrison (Vobster, near Bath), Mr. Needham (Newport), and Mr. J. T. Thomas (Cleford) conducted the examination at the grand jury room of the Bristol Assize Courts. When the examiners had concluded their labours the following names were posted as those which would be returned to the Secretary of State as duly qualified to receive certificates of competency:—John Nixon, Pontypool; Clement Probert, Blaenau Works, Newport; Edwin S. Jones, Pontypool. At mid-day on Friday, the 14th inst., a meeting of the board was held, when the examiners presented their report, and several other matters of business were considered. Before the members of the board separated the following resolution, submitted by the secretary, Mr. Thomas, was adopted, a copy of it being forwarded to Mr. Lionel Brough, Inspector of Mines for the district:—

"That this board, and the three examiners associated with it, hereby desire to convey to their esteemed and valued friend, Mr. Lionel Brough, Her Majesty's Inspector of Mines for the district, a sincere and heartfelt expression of their sympathy with him in his present affliction. That his absence from the recent examinations, in consequence of his severe indisposition, was deeply regretted by the examiners and the board, who greatly missed the valuable aid and counsel hitherto so kindly given on these occasions, and that it is fervently hoped that Mr. Brough may soon be restored to his usual health and vigour, and that his life may be spared for many years of future honour and usefulness in a public service for which his long experience and well-known abilities so eminently qualify him."

The examination for the mining district embracing the larger portion of the county of Durham, the county of Westmoreland, and a large part of Yorkshire, took place on Monday at the Central Hall, Darlington. A large number of candidates, chiefly from the Durham and Yorkshire collieries, presented themselves for examination, which lasted eight hours. The examination was conducted by Mr. A. L. Stevenson, of Durham, and Mr. John Forman, president of the Miners' Association. There were also present Mr. Thomas Bell, Her Majesty's Inspector of Mines; Mr. Bartlett, the secretary of the board; and Mr. J. B. Atkinson, Assistant Inspector of Mines, Fences Houses. The last-named gentleman had been called upon to officiate for Mr. Daglish, who had been called away suddenly to proceed to Belgium. There were 26 candidates, and their examination lasted the entire day. The purpose of the examination is to enable the successful candidates to obtain a certificate of authority issued by the

Secretary of State, without which the office of manager of mines cannot now be held under the provisions of the recent Coal Mines Regulation Act.

PROPOSED MUSEUM OF SCIENCE.—The President of the Royal Society (Dr. Hooker), Mr. Spottiswoode, Dr. Burdon Sanderson, and of the Council, the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, and presented to him a memorial in favour of the establishment of a museum of pure and applied science. The memorial was numerous signed by gentlemen who have been connected with the Loan Collection of Scientific Apparatus at South Kensington. The memorialists defined the proposed museum as one "to contain scientific apparatus, apparatus, and chemical products, illustrating both the history and the latest developments of science; where the methods and results of investigations which have marked important stages in the advancement of science may be studied, and where also the most highly perfected instruments of the day may be found." His Grace discussed the subject with the deputation, and stated that he would consult his colleagues.

AUSTRALIAN GOLD.—The Custom House account of gold received from Australia in the first-half of the present year states its value at only 1,918,985*l*. This is 28 per cent. less than in the corresponding half of last year. The Australians, however, have much hope of the productiveness of deep quartz reefs. The Oriental Company at Stawell struck a lode in May at a depth of 1060 ft., and on a trial crushing 7½ tons of stone yielded upwards of 48 ozs. of gold. In the same month 20 tons of quartz taken from the Port Phillip Mine, Clunes, between the 900 ft. and 1000 ft. levels, yielded 22 ozs.

TRADE IN WALES.—With an unparalleled depression, both in intensity and duration, in the staple trades of the South Wales district, it is scarcely a matter of surprise that almost every week brings us intelligence of the suspension of old-established and reputable houses. Trade generally, not only in Wales, but the whole country, is just now passing through one of those crucial tests which visit us periodically, and test the stability of firms which in ordinary times justly command confidence. The depression which now obtains in every department of our staple industries is felt more acutely in consequence of the prosperity which was enjoyed some two or three years ago, and when Trade Union agitators pushed to the extreme limit their demands for increased wages. The collapse of some of the oldest and most respectable firms in Wales demonstrates the supreme folly of the policy which those agitators so ruthlessly pursued, for unquestionably it produced such an enormous increase in the cost of production that manufacturers were unable to compete with our continental neighbours and our American rivals, and much of the trade which usually fell to the good fortune of the Welsh houses has silently drifted into other markets, and the condition of the great majority of the large manufacturing centres of South Wales to-day is most deplorable. That some of the largest firms have been obliged to succumb to the exigencies of the times can scarcely be wondered at, and that others will follow is only to be expected, considering the keen competition now existing, and the fearfully low prices now obtaining for iron and manufactured goods, and also coal. The great bulk of the unthinking public make no allowance for the exigencies of trade with which makers have to contend, and suspension of operations is generally associated either with reckless trading or culpable extravagance. Well-regulated minds, however, do not join in such wholesale condemnation, but, on the other hand, see much to sympathise with, and attribute failure to a combination of adverse circumstances over which they have no control. And assuredly, if there was ever an occasion in which large manufacturers and colliery proprietors deserved such sympathy, and when harsh judgment should be deprecated, it is the present, for never before in the commercial history of South Wales have merchants and colliery proprietors had more difficult and trying times with which to contend.

BRISTOL COAL FIELD.—Trade on both sides of the Bristol coal field is extremely dull. The pits are everywhere working short time, some only being employed two or three days in the week, and yet, with this limited output, stocks are rapidly accumulating. The men who recently struck work at the Kingswood and Parkfield pits against the reduction of wages have now all returned to their work, and the masters have at present more men at the pits than they can find work for. Prices are at their lowest point, and it is difficult to see how, unless some change for the better soon takes place, many of the pits can be kept at work at a profit. The retail price of coal at the local pits varies from 12s. to 15s. per ton. The demand for gas and steam coal is also very languid, but owners look with some hope to a little more activity in these branches as the time approaches when contracts for the winter will be made. There is a little business in the small coal trade, but this is principally owing to the fact that screening in port has been discontinued at Cardiff, and the district is thrown upon Bristol for its supply. The iron trade is in an almost hopeless state of depression. The mills are at work, but it is difficult to accept orders at remunerative rates, and there are some heavy stocks on hand. The iron mines at Windford are rather actively employed just now. A considerable quantity of ironstone is being raised there, which is carted to Bristol, and forwarded thence by Midland Railway to Staffordshire, where there is a good demand for it. It is said to be extremely suitable to the Siemens direct process, and should that process prove a success, as is confidently expected, there will be a still greater demand for ore.

THE BOILER EXPLOSION ON BOARD THE THUNDERER.—A simple act of justice towards the authorities connected with the construction and fitting out of the Thunderer, we ask our readers to suspend their judgment in reference to the disastrous boiler explosion which took place on board that vessel on Friday last until a searching official investigation has taken place and thrown such light thereon as can be obtained. Whilst asking this as a matter of justice, however, we cannot help expressing our surprise and astonishment that whilst general engineering science recommends that ordinary steam-boilers should be made to bear a pressure of from 70 lbs. to 100 lbs. the square inch, that in a vessel which cost the nation no less than 300,000*l*, one of the boilers should have exploded when being worked at a pressure of only 34 lbs. the inch. We have hitherto been naturally and justifiably proud of the make, the durability, and general utility of our marine engines and boilers, but this sad occurrence is a crushing blow and a sorry commentary thereon, and has already produced an effect on the alleged superiority of our machinery which will take years to eradicate. The fearful sacrifice of life which occurred on Friday will help to swell that list of victims from boiler explosions, which a writer in the *Pall Mall Gazette* some few weeks since said was necessary before Government would interfere in the interest of public safety. We shall now, of course, have a searching official investigation, and we fear the cause will be traced. In the meantime we ask that judgment may be suspended, as otherwise unjust comments may be made upon those who may be undeserving, and who may perhaps be more entitled to sympathy than censure. Let us also remember, too, that all are wise after an event, and may be this fearful explosion is by no means attributable either to inferiority of material used, or defect in construction, but to one of those preventable causes which appertain to all human work and superintendence.

Some curiosity having been manifested as to the cost of machinery supplied to the vessels of our fleet, it may not be uninteresting to give a few figures on the subject. The contract for the engines of the Thunderer—now disabled at Portsmouth—was 46,500*l*. The estimate for the hull was 250,000*l*, but as this did not include guns or the extra cost involved by her hasty preparation for sea, it is not unlikely that she was worth fully 450,000*l*, when she blew up on Friday last. The cost of the Cornwallia, a 60 ton gun ship, built 20 years ago, was 12,000*l* for boilers and engines, and about 73,000*l* for hull and entire fittings. The machinery of the Bellerophon cost 86,900*l*; that of the Agincourt 83,770*l*; the Hercules 82,844*l*; the Northumberland 79,871*l*; the Minotaur 79,500*l*; the Warrior and Black Prince 74,400*l* each; and the Achilles 69,000*l*. Of these ships the Northumberland was the most expensive, costing 471,332*l*, the Agincourt 465,477*l*, and

The outlay on the ships now building, how-
ever, is considerably greater. The Dreadnought, an armour-plated
turret ship of four guns, is to cost no less a sum than 508,395*l.* and
the Alexandria, a broadside
ship of 12 guns, will cost 411,980*l.* for hull alone, and the contract
price for her engines is 110,500*l.* more.

REPORT FROM CORNWALL.

July 20.—Another very quiet week, with absolutely nothing of
importance to report, and certainly no change either actual or im-
minent to notice. The most recent topic of discussion has been the
question of overdrawn mine accounts invoked at East Pool, and par-
ticularly the statement of Capt. Abraham James that there are mines
in Cornwall which pay 700*l.* or 800*l.* a year in bankers' charges. Of
course, it is inevitable that in a business conducted in the practically
hand-to-mouth scale that mining is, where large balances in hand are
little known, unless they represent the residue of unexpended
"limited" capital, that there should be occasional draws on the
bank, but this is a state of things which should by no means be
allowed to become either general or chronic.

Ninety-nine out of every hundred Cornubians if they were asked
which was the richest and most prosperous tin mine in the county
would undoubtedly reply Dolcoath; but as there are more things
in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in everyday philosophy, so
there are more mines in Cornwall than appear in the Share Lists.
It was recently remarked in a Western paper—*apropos* of the work
of improvement which Major Carlyon is carrying out on his estate
at Tregrehan, by removing old mine burrows and doing away with
surface disfigurements caused by mining—that mining in the St.
Austell district was practically extinct. And undoubtedly, so far as
the extent covered goes, it can only be deemed a shadow of its former
self. But there are and have long been in that locality mines held
in very few hands—small co-partnerships—whose doings are never
reported, and whose balance-sheets never appear in the public prints.
And so when the statement was made, it was announced upon the highest
authority that it was certainly not dead, but that Dolcoath even
not excepted, the richest lode now worked, and that from which
the largest profits are derived, is within a very short distance of the
Cornwall Railway, between St. Austell and Par. The blanks of
mining we generally hear all about, but here is a prize, the existence
of which is only made known thus casually.

There has been another action for the "put" of mine shares—
5*l.* being claimed by James Paul of Thomas Hawke for the "put"
of shares of West Polkice. Mr. Bere heard the case, and it having
been proved that 5*l.* had been paid by the plaintiff to the defendant
for the "put" at 25*l.* per share, he said to Mr. Hawke: "You are not
sued for the difference in the price of the shares, only for the 5*l.*
which he gave you to carry out the contract. I considered this
matter most carefully when the former case came before me, and I am
of opinion that the person who gives that money can recover it back
from the person who elects to declare the contract void. If he were
suing for the difference in the price of the shares he would have to
prove a *bona fide* intention on his part to deliver the shares, and a
bona fide intention on your part to receive them, and his *bona fides*
would have been shown by the fact that he had the shares registered
in his name at the time. But you have chosen not to carry out the
contract, and it is, therefore, very unfair that you should keep the
5*l.* I shall give judgment for the amount claimed, and you must
return the money." The law as to "put" ought to be clear enough
now. As laid down by Mr. Bere, it certainly is common sense.

Mr. Husbands' pneumatic stamps have been working at Great
Wheat Vor, with two heads, for the past two months with great suc-
cess, and without hindrance of any kind. A few days since a large
head with lifter, together about 7 cwt., was put to work, and stamped
12 cwt. 2 qrs. of fair average lodestuff in 28 minutes, or at the rate
of 30 tons in 24 hours. The two heads in one coffer took 31 minutes
to perform the same work. This is unprecedented in the history
of Cornish mining. It would require 32 heads of the ordinary
stamps to do the same work.

A scientific man of considerable eminence in the West of England
has just passed away at the age of 66—Dr. Hearder, F.C.S., of Plym-
outh. The deceased gentleman's attention was chiefly directed to
electricity, in connection with which he made a number of impor-
tant discoveries, and he was, it is said, the first to propose the laying
of a cable across the Atlantic, the cable laid being almost identical
with one which he patented. His inventions in mechanics, &c., were
numerous, and he took several of the Royal Cornwall Polytechnic
Society's medals.

TRADE OF THE TYNE AND WEAR.

July 20.—There is little change in the main feature of the Coal
and Iron Trades; the steam coals still occupy the best position in the
trade, and most of the large works in Northumberland are well em-
ployed. The house coal trade is very quiet, but prices are not
altered. There is no change of importance in the iron trade. Pig-
iron is likely to fall still further in value, and there is no improve-
ment in the finished iron trade. There has been much uneasiness
on the Tyne the last few days, owing to rumours of impending
heavy failures of houses engaged in the iron trade in Cleveland. It
is, indeed, well known that some of these houses have been in-
volved in financial difficulties for some time. It is, however, pos-
sible that these difficulties may be overcome, but only too probable
that stoppages will take place, and if this does happen of course
many of the coal, coke, and other merchants in the district are likely
to suffer severe losses. Owing to the defeat of the Bill brought
in by the Tyne Commissioners at the commencement of the session
of Parliament all their heavy works in the Tyne have been suspended,
and upwards of 1600 men have been thrown out of employment.

[A meeting of creditors of Thomas Vaughan and Co., of Middles-
borough, was held on Thursday, when it was resolved that the com-
pany should be converted into a limited liability company. The ar-
rangement made is that the creditors shall take an interest in the
new company proportionate to their claims, which will permit the
works in North Yorkshire and Durham to be carried on uninterru-
ptedly. This arrangement of a very threatening difficulty has
created a great deal of satisfaction throughout the great iron district
of Cleveland.]

The 100 ton gun lately manufactured at Elswick was shipped on
board the transport ship *Europa* on Tuesday. The great swing
bridge at Newcastle was opened on Monday, and the *Europa* was
the first vessel to pass the bridge, and afterwards was towed up
to the wharf at the Elswick Engine and Ordnance Works of Sir W.
Armstrong and Co. The removal of the gun was effected in a very
short time by the beautiful apparatus lately erected here, the power
applied being hydraulic pressure. The *Europa* will convey the gun
to Spezia, when it will be transferred to the turret ship now in
course of building there. Two of these turret ships are to be built,
each carrying four of these monster guns. The apparatus used at
the swing bridge acted admirably, not only with the greatest pre-
cision, but the time occupied is comparatively short, and it is, there-
fore, not likely that any inconvenience will be caused to the public
by the opening of the bridge.

The market at Middlesbrough opened rather flat, and did not
manifest any improvement at the close. Though there were some
enquiries for pig-iron sales were rather limited, owing, perhaps, in
a measure to rumours of local financial difficulties. Especially was
this the case with large quantities, as beyond the requirements for
shipment the demand is small, except for foundry iron, which is being
ordered on a comparatively large scale, as the four firms show an unusual state
of activity. Pigs and mills which use foreign qualities are, on the other hand,
largely closed, and the chief demand for this class of iron is for shipment, and the
supply of the plate mills, some addition to whose orders have lately made. Pal-
mer's Iron Shipbuilding Company (Limited), who have orders for six gunboats,
which are being executed, have received further contracts for the execution of three
torpedo vessels. Otherwise, there does not appear to be much fresh doing in the
little enquiry, and the low price of freights shows that there is little profitable
work offering for vessels. The prices of plate are generally about 6*l.* 5*s.* to 7*l.* 4*s.*
for the nominal quotations. Buyers have been pressing for lower rates, especially
for competitive purposes, but none except needy sellers give way to any extent.

The quotations of makers generally are about—No. 1, 49*s.*; No. 2, 45*s.*; to 45*s.*, 6*d.*;
No. 4, 42*s.* 6*d.* to 43*s.*. There is no decision with regard to blast-furnacemen's wages.
It is believed, however, that the men will accept the reduction at the end of the
week. The Coal Trade is dull, and there is very little enquiry. Households, best,
12*s.* at the pits. The coke trade is dull, and prices are 10*s.* to 12*s.* at the ovens for
furnace sorts. No change in manufacturing coal.

NORTHUMBERLAND COAL WORKERS IN SOUTH WALES.—The
visit of the joint deputation from the coalowners and coalminers of
Northumberland to South Wales, for the purpose of enquiring into
the Welsh system of working coal, has terminated. A meeting of
of miners was held at Aberdare, on Saturday, and was addressed by
Mr. John Bryson, President of the Northumberland Miners' Asso-
ciation, and Mr. John Nixon, secretary of the Association. Mr.
Nixon said the object of the deputation's visit to South Wales was
to enquire into the Welsh system of working coal, having particular
regard to the production of "round" and "small." It affected the Northum-
berland men in this way. The owners of the district held that the men of Wales pro-
duced less small coal than the colliers of Northumberland, and it was their desire
to bring about some changes in this respect right through the country. In seeking
to bring this about the employers did not say "We are going to do so and so,"
instead of that, they communicated to those who represented the Northumberland
Miners' Association invited them to a conference, asking them to discuss the mat-
ter in the first instance, and then to appoint a deputation to go to South Wales and
see for themselves the mode of working, with a view to arriving at some new
system for Northumberland. Now, the owners would never have taken that course had
it not been for the fact that they knew they could not introduce such an important
change without first consulting the miners. The fact was this, that no change of
wages of any department in the mines of the county ever took place without the
full consent of the masters and the employees. The general mode of settlement
was this—two coal viewers or managers, accompanied by two coal hewers, would
go to the place where the dispute existed, and, after obtaining all information, if
they could not agree, would report to the joint council, who would arbitrate upon
the same between the parties in dispute. This had been going on for some years,
but at the onset things were very different. Employers were then as much op-
posed to combinations of working men as they were in other districts, but now
they could always settle their disputes, and had done so since the new system came
into operation, without once having had to resort to a strike.

REPORT FROM LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

July 20.—There is no change to report in the condition of the coal
or iron trades, the state of inactivity which has prevailed for many
weeks continuing. Times have not been so bad for many years as
they are now, and it is to be feared that unless a change comes the
winter will bring great distress. In many cases pits are stopped,
and there are not many colliery proprietors who are not employing
fewer hands than they were a short time ago. Where the men go to
is a mystery. The ironworks too are employing less labour, and
in many cases 50 per cent. of the workmen have been discharged.
There will, according to rumour, be several large works wholly
stopped before the winter sets in.

The proceedings of Bolton magistrates concerning a colliery case
which was before them last week are causing much comment. The
Wigan Coal and Iron Company prosecuted a collier, and after he had
been convicted and fined 2*s.* costs the presiding magistrate informed
the solicitor for the company that in the opinion of the Bench the
management of the company had been very remiss, and that the facts
would be reported to the Inspector of Mines. On the solicitor in-
quiring in what the remission consisted the magistrate declined to
enter further into the matter. The only point to which the magis-
trates' observation could apply would be found in the fact that the
defendant could not read, and that he had pleaded ignorance of the
rules, and it was proved on behalf of the company that they had
fully complied with the law as to the publishing of the special rules.

At a meeting of the Wigan Explosion Committee, on Monday, it
was announced that the grant from the Mansion House Committee
of 3512*l.* had been received, and a resolution was passed thanking
the Lord Mayor and other members of the committee. The scales
of relief were revised, and it was decided to invest 2500*l.* of it.

REPORT FROM DERBYSHIRE AND YORKSHIRE.

July 20.—The Coal Trade of Derbyshire is by no means active,
still a great deal more is being done than there was a few weeks
since. The leading colliery owners doing largely with the metro-
politan still complain of the competition that exists between the sea-
borne and the inland coal, and the low prices that business has to
be done at in consequence. Indeed, house coal can be purchased
fully as low as during any part of the past five years. There is
rather more being done in steam coal, whilst gas nuts and engine
fuel are quiet. At the Shirland Colliery (the Miners' Association
property) Mr. John Holmes rules the roast in his usual capricious
manner, and boasts of having taught the miners of the district a
lesson that will be useful to them by sending several to prison for
intimidation. At one time Mr. Holmes was an advocate for strikes,
as the file of the *Mining Journal* could demonstrate, for he at one
time filled some columns showing how strikes raised wages, and
how necessary they were to promote the material prosperity of the
miner. He also abused in no measured terms Mr. C. Markham, the
managing director of the Staveley Company; but now all is
changed, for Mr. Holmes reserves all his abuse for the working men,
whose servant he is supposed to be. He still invites ardent co-
operators to come and work at Shirland, where the wages have been
reduced about 20 per cent. lower than at the other collieries in the
neighbourhood. Such is the glorious principle of co-operation as
worked out by the managing director of the Shirland Colliery.

Most of the Sheffield trades are in a depressed state, more espe-
cially the lighter branches. The armour-plate mills have been doing
very well, and are likely to continue to do so, seeing that most of
the great powers, although declaring in favour of peace, are in-
creasing their armaments and munitions of war. The Bessemer
rail mills, although not particularly active, are still well employed,
and a few good orders have just come to hand. Table and spring
knives, saws, and files are in but moderate request. Most of the
foundries are doing very well, the men being fully employed. In
South Yorkshire the coal trade is by no means brisk, and the busi-
ness doing with London is but moderate, whilst prices are by no
means remunerative. The strike at Manvers Main, which has lasted
since the second week in April, was brought to a close on Tuesday,
and it was agreed that work should be resumed on Friday on the
terms of the award, and that riddles should be used, for which an
allowance of 1*s.* per score corfs, or 10 tons, should be made. It is
expected that the men belonging to the Swaith and Edmunds Main
Collieries will come to terms before the end of the week. The dis-
pute in both cases related to the money to be paid for getting coal
by wedging, blasting having been abolished.

**WINNING OF THE COAL AT THE CARLTON MAIN COLLIERY, NEAR
BARNESLEY.**—Another large colliery will shortly be added to those
engaged in working the well-known and valuable Barnesley seam in
South Yorkshire, and which will add largely to the productive power
of the district. Carlton is situated about four miles from Barnesley,
and the shafts, which have been sunk on the estate of Earl Warrington, from whom
about 1300 acres of coal have been leased by the company, are in close proximity
to the Midland Railway, to which there is a short branch line. The work of sinking
has been under the superintendence of Mr. G. J. Jackson, the manager, and, de-
spite the many difficulties that were met with and had to be overcome, more espe-
cially with respect to feeders of water, the coal was reached in a much less time,
considering its depth, than was the case at any colliery in the district. The first
soil was turned by Earl Warrington, but it was not until August 31, 1874, that
sinking operations commenced, the necessary machinery—permanent and other-
wise—having been put down, and as the coal was reached on Saturday night last
in the No. 2 shaft, at a depth of 290 yards, the getting down to it occupied less than
two years. After the sinkers had made some progress two feet 8*in.* of water were
met with—one giving off 17,000 gallons an hour and the other 15,000 gallons per hour.
This required to be tubbed off. Consequently, in each shaft the cut from tubbing
lined both shafts to a depth of 138 yards—about the greatest length of tubbing to
be found at any colliery in South Yorkshire. Below the tubbing the shafts are
cased with two rings of brick work of a very substantial character. The diameter
of each shaft is 14 ft. inside the tubbing. Owing to the time taken in taking out
the pumps and coupling the engines for winding, it will be about eight or nine
weeks before the coal is reached in the No. 1 shaft. Nearly all the permanent
work has been completed, including the boiler houses, workshops, and other build-
ings. The engines for winding are in their place, and consist of a pair of hori-
zontal high-pressure 31-inch cylinders each and 6 foot stroke, made by Davy
Brothers and Company (Limited), of Sheffield. The drum is 16 feet in diameter,
carrying a flat charcoal iron wire, 3½ in. broad, and 11-16th in. thick, made by
Sir George Elliot and Co., at the works at Cardiff. The work of sinking and
reaching the coal was accomplished without accident or injury to any of the
workmen. Seeing that the surface work is all but completed, but a short time will
elapse before a large tonnage of coal will be raised. Work will be found for several
hundreds of workmen, so that the quiet, and till lately rural, village of Carlton
promises to become a most important mining one. Lord Warrington is building

a church for the new population, whilst he has also erected a commodious hotel—
no doubt the two being considered essential to the wants of a large population.

REPORT FROM MONMOUTHSHIRE AND SOUTH WALES.

July 20.—Of the Iron Trade this week but little of a favourable
nature can be said; and, in fact, the reports which come to hand
from the various districts are by no means of an encouraging char-
acter. The continental demand appears to have been somewhat
disturbed in consequence of the war in the East; and several orders
are said to have, for this reason, been suspended. In bars, the de-
mand has again fallen off; and the home enquiry is still exceedingly
small. The clearances of rails are unusually small, and are princi-
pally to Italy and the Swedish ports. Orders for the Cops and
Canada are also in course of execution, and ironmasters are looking
hopefully to China to supply them with orders for rails in the
future, seeing that the opening of the first railway in that country
has been so successfully inaugurated. Tin-plates are unaltered. It
is expected that Messrs. Banks and Co. will be able to pay, if time
be given, 20*s.* in 1*l.* It was said that the stoppage was due to family
litigation alone. Mr. Moggridge, of the tin-works, Caerleon, has
also filed a petition. The liabilities are stated to be some 17,000*l.*,
and the assets about 14,000*l.* The most friendly relations have
always existed between the employer and his men; and the latter
have recently held a meeting, at which it was resolved "That,
when the works re-start, every employee will give a fourth part
of his wages for a period of three months." Mr. Moggridge was pre-
sent at the meeting, and thanked the men for their generous offer.
The chief cause of the stoppage of the works is the depression in
trade. Speaking of the tin-plate trade, it may be mentioned that a
partial start has been made at the Vernon Tinworks.

The Coal Trade is as bad as ever, and though the exports of foreign
are improving during the last few days prices are so miserably low
that it is with extreme difficulty that any profit can be realised.
Clearances coastwise have diminished, and such is the depressed
state of this branch of trade that several of the vessels engaged in
the coasting trade have been obliged to lay up. Freights in this
department are extremely low. Two local colliery companies have
succumbed to the dulness of business. The Eastern demand has not
improved. Patent fuel dull. The Northumberland coalworkers
have, since I last wrote, visited other parts of the district, and have
been everywhere cordially received by their brethren in Mon-
mouthshire.

The South Wales Institution of Miners and Engineers have held
their usual quarterly meeting at Cardiff, but the business transacted
was of a purely routine character. The Cardiff Field Naturalists'
Society have recently paid a visit, among other places, to the Severn
Tunnel Works, at Portskewett, which appear to be progressing
favourably. One man has died from the effect of the recent colli-
ery explosion at Ebbw Vale, and two others lie in a precarious
condition. Two men have been killed at the Werfa Colliery, Aber-
dare, by a quantity of rubbish falling on them. A mass meeting of
colliers has been held at Abertillery, and terminated in a resolution
in favour of firmly establishing the National Union of Miners in
the locality. The greatest harmony, however, did not prevail among
all those present. A vein of steam coal of excellent quality has been
struck at Blaengawr, Aberdare, on the property of Messrs. D. Davis
and Sons.

REPORT FROM NORTH AND SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE.

July 20.—Business continues very quiet in the Iron Trade of South
Staffordshire, and the prospects of improvement are far from cheer-
ing. In the pig-iron branch a few orders are being given out for
the better class of foundry pigs for local consumption, but the de-
mand for forge pigs is extremely flat. The course of prices presents
no change upon our last report. Finished iron remains on the basis
of 7*l.* for common, and 9*l.* to 9*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* per ton for good branded
bars. In all departments of the trade the extent of production has
been reduced to a minimum.

Messrs. Solly and Urwick, of Willenhall, availing themselves of
the present quiet time of trade, have put out the last of their blast-
furnaces to enable them to increase the height of each of the three
furnaces by 9 ft. and at the same time put down fresh air-heating
apparatus. The firm hope to resume operations in November.

The Coal Trade of South Staffordshire is depressed, and prices of
medium and common qualities of fuel are easier. The increase in
the available supply of the district will be enormous when the
Sandwell Park pits begin to wind, and when the several Cannock
Chase concerns, now on the verge of completion, begin to pour their
stocks into the market.

The following were among to-day's quotations on the Birmingham
Stock Exchange:—Sandwell Park, 25; Hamstead Colliery, par,
sellers; Cannock and Huntington, par; Perry Colliery, 1, prem.;
West Cannock, New, 2 prem.; Chillington Iron, 4½. The tone of
the market is flat and despondent.

Mr. T. Wynne, the Government Inspector of Mines for North
Staffordshire, in his annual report just issued, makes the following
pointed and pithy allusion to the use of blasting powder in fiery
seams:—"I have year after year pointed out the 'farce' of using
locked lamps where the most dangerous of all lights is allowed
(blasting), and, therefore, the awful responsibility of sanctioning a
course that leads to such terrible losses of life rests on other heads
and not on mine. It is some satisfaction to know that nothing
would induce the proprietors of the Bunker's Hill Colliery to resume
the use of gunpowder, but a very natural question arises—'Whether
it be advisable to allow these dire calamities to take place, destroy-
ing hundreds of valuable lives, which in the opinion of many per-
sons are preventable by the simple prohibition of the use of explo-
sives in fiery mines?' or, in homely phrase, 'to lock the stable door
before the steed is stolen.'"

The Iron Trade of North Staffordshire is without improvement,
and the demand for coal is scarcely half the usual average at this
season. Ironstone is in abundant supply, but few sales are being
effected. Prices all round are irregular and depressed.

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE MINES DRAINAGE.—A special meeting
of the South Staffordshire Mines Drainage Commissioners was held
at Wolverhampton, on Tuesday, Mr. G. J. Barker presided, and there
was a numerous attendance, including Mr. J. T. Woodhouse, M.E.,
one of the arbitrators, Lieut. Colonel Thorneycroft, Messrs. Rupert
Kettle, J. P. Hunt, Walter Williams, F. S. Perry, H. Ward, J. W.
Sparrow, and B. Whitehouse. The eleventh report of the arbitrators
(Messrs. G. M. Dowdeswell, Q.C., T. Hawksley, C.E., and J. T. Wood-
house, M.E.), on the mines drainage of the Bilston district, which
created grave apprehensions lest the various pumps then employed should be over-
powered. This led to arrangements being made for the sub-lifting of pumping
engines at work in the district. The report goes on to refer to the extreme wa-
reness of last summer, which was followed by the levying of a mines drainage rate.
After explaining the geographical position of the district, and mentioning the
various faults in the mines of the district, the arbitrators set out a tabulated state-
ment of the collieries, their positions, whether in the crop or not, whether flooded
or exhausted, the number of pumping engines, the quantity of water raised daily,
and numerous other details. The report concludes by stating that the cost of pro-
viding the new engines, and repairing those which require to be started, and
making the necessary underground communications will be, as nearly as can be
estimated, 45,000*l.* The arbitrators consider that if the list is to be effectually and
speedily drained much of the underground drifts must be removed before the
communication can be made. The works are estimated to cost 5000*l.* every three
months till the whole of them are completed, and that it will take two years or up-
wards to do the work. This cost will exceed the amount to be realised by the
maximum rates that can be levied, and the matter was referred back to the Bilston
District Committee, who passed a resolution:—"That the arbitrators be requested
to issue a report, with a view to making an award for levying a rate on all the mi-
nerals to be raised in the next year, sufficient to provide a sum of 15,000*l.* (gross),
and which sum is to be appropriated in payment of working such pumping plants
as in their judgment may be required to relieve the district of water in the mines." This
was sent on to the arbitrators, who now report that the sum of 15,000*l.* will be
inadequate to defray the expenses and charges which will be incurred in unwind-
ing the mines and for meeting the other liabilities consequent upon putting in
force within the district the powers of the Act relating to the mines drainage. We
hope that arrangement may be effected by the committee, with the aid and ap-
proval of the commissioners, for fairly apportioning amongst the several pumps
such sum as, after discharging the necessary legal expenses, shall remain from the
proceeds of the application of the maximum statutory rates to the minerals raised
within the district.

The tenth report of the drainage of the Tipton district was also presented. The
arbitrators give similar details as to the position of the pits, pumping, &c., as in the
Bilston report, and conclude by stating that the cost of providing new engines and

repairing those required to be started is estimated at 70,000. The cost of works necessary to be done is put down at 500,000, and the execution of the works will take over two years. As the estimates of the cost of the whole works exceeded the amount that can be realised from the maximum statutory rates—the only provision made by the Act for the unweariness of the mines—was inadequate, the committee towards came to the conclusion, from the investigations of the arbitrators and chief engineer, that the sum of 23,187, would effect all that was required, and that committee recommended the arbitrators to issue an amended report, charging all minerals raised for this year at the maximum statutory rates allowed by the Act. The arbitrators regret that unless some arrangement is made with the persons at present pumping, a great portion of the district will be totally submerged. In the face of such a catastrophe they feel it their duty to recommend the Commissioners to levy the maximum rates for the ensuing year. The maximum rate for coal and slack is 6d. per ton, 3d. per ton on ironstone, and 9d. per ton on fire-clay. The Commissioners occupied considerable time in discussing these reports, which were eventually adopted. The annual meeting for the purpose of levying the rates will be held next month.—*Wolverhampton Chronicle*.

THE SCOTCH MINING SHARE MARKET—WEEKLY REPORT AND LIST OF PRICES.

During the past week the market has again been extremely quiet, the only movement of importance being the continued improvement in all the shares of the oil companies. In shares of iron and coal concerns only a small amount of business has been effected, and the movements are generally downwards. Chillington Iron, however, is better. Bolekow Vaughan "B" is at 34½. Brynmawr, 8. Cairn-table, 8. Cardiff and Swansea, 40s. to 50s. Chapel House, 40s. to 50s. Clee Hill, 1s. 6d., sellers. Crown Preserved, 45s. to 55s. Darlington Colliery, 25s. Great Western Colliery, 7 to 9. John Bagnall and Sons, 5. Llynvi, Tondy, and Ogmore, 18 to 20. Newport and Abercrombie, 35s. to 45s. Oakland Colliery 10 per cent. debentures, ½ p. m., 5s. to 5s. Pelsall Coal and Iron, 7 to 8. Rhondda Merthyr Colliery, 13 to 15. Rhymney Iron, 21 to 22. Scottish Australian, 20s. to 35s. Sheepbridge Coal and Iron, 11½ to 12 p. m. South Wales Colliery, 7 to 9. Spon Lane Colliery, 14 dis. sellers. Tredegar Iron and Coal, 4½ to 10. West Cumberland Iron and Steel, 9½ to 10. West Moystyn (preference), 6s. to 7s. In shares of foreign copper concerns the principal movement is a fall on Canadian Pyrites, but Cape has advanced 40s. since the report was issued. Yorke Peninsula (ordinary) are at 7s. 6d. to 10s., and 15 per cent. guaranteed preference 17s. 6d. to 18s. 9d. In shares of home mines there has been nothing doing. The reports from Bedford United, Cargill, Plynlimmon, and Prince of Wales, are of a favourable nature. The Glasgow Caradon sale this month is computed 240 tons; last month 260 were sold, and in the corresponding months of 1875 and 1874, 241 and 240 tons respectively.

Bedford United, 12s. 6d., buyers. Dunsley Wheel Phoenix, 8d. East Van, 7½ to 8. Frank Mills, 8s. 6d., sellers. Glasgow Caradon, 25s. 8d. to 26s. Great Laxey, 17½. Gunplake (Clitters), 45s. to 55s. Herodfoot, 50s. to 70s. Kilfrith, 18s. buyers. Myndy Iron Ore, 35s. to 45s. Pennant Barytes, 70s. to 9s. Pennerley, 25s. to 30s. Penrith, 15s. to 17s. 6d. Plynlimmon, 6s. 6d. Roman Gravel, 14½, sellers. Rookhope, 15s. Tankerville, 9½ to 10½. Unity Wood, 27s. 6d., buyers. West Tankerville, 37s. 6d., sellers. (preference), 40s. Shares of gold and silver mines have also been neglected. Emma at 10s. to 15s. show a reduction, while Richmond has improved on the week's run being 92½. Swedish shares have dropped to a mere trifle on the reports continuing unfavourable. The Cedar Creek, Chontales, Santa Barbara, and St. John del Rey advices are not remarkable. Javali appears better. The Eberhard and Aurora returns should cause the shares to go much higher when they attract attention. Chontales are 6s. to 8s. Don Pedro, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. Eberhard and Aurora, 5½. Frontino and Bolivia, 50s. to 55s. Javali, 6s. buyers. Malpas, 10s., sellers. Pestarena United, 6s. 3d.; ditto (preference), 20s. Port Phillip, 5s. 10s. 3d. to 2s. 6d. Santa Barbara, 34s. to 36s. St. John del Rey, 34s. South Aurora, 8s. Sweetland Creek, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 6d. Tocomba, 6s. to 10s. As before noted, a fair business has been done in oil companies' shares at, in every instance, better prices. In miscellaneous companies' shares there is no change. The Scottish Wagon Company recommended a dividend of 6 per cent., carrying forward 137½, which compares with 5 per cent. at this time last year. Ashbury Railway Carriage and Iron is at 35 to 38 dis.; Hopkins, Gilkes, and Co. (new), 7½ dis.; and Patent Shaft and Axletree (preference), 9½. Details of the several days' business follow (with the exceptions of Saturday and Monday, which were holidays):—

On THURSDAY market neglected. Bolekow, Vaughan, A. 50 to 55½; Clee Hill, 1s. 6d., sellers. Dalmey Oil, 6s. buyers. Frank Mills, 8s. 6d., sellers. Glasgow Port Washington, 4½, buyers; ditto (preference) also wanted at 4½. Huntington 9½ to 15s. 6d. and 16s., closing 16s. to 17s. Lechore and Capelrae, 6½ to 8½. Malpas, 10s., sellers. Richmond, 8½ to 9½. Sweetland, 10s., sellers. Tankerville, about 9½. Thariss opened at 20½, improved to 20½, and after being done at 20½, 6s. 3d., again advanced to 20½, 6s. 3d., closing 20½ to 20½; new shares done at 14, closing 14 to 14½. Uphall Oil done at 7. West Cumberland Iron and Steel, 9½ to 10. Yorke Peninsula (ordinary), 7s. 6d. to 10s.; ditto 15 per cent. guaranteed preference, 17s. 6d. to 18s. 9d. Young's Paraffin opened at 12½, declined to 11½, recovered to 12½, but again gave way to 12, closing 12 to 12½.

On FRIDAY very little doing. Bolekow, Vaughan, A. about 5½. Chontales, 5s. to 7s. 6d. Don Pedro, 1s. 6d., buyers. East Van, 6 to 6½. Frontino and Bolivia, 47s. 6d. to 55s. 6d. Javali, 6s. 3d. to 6s. 3d. Lechore and Capelrae, 6½ to 8½. Omoa and Cleland, done at 35s. Pennant Barytes, 55s., sellers. Pestarena United, 6s. 3d., sellers. Plynlimmon, 4s. to 6s. Richmond, 8½ to 9½. Roman Gravel, 14½ to 14¾. Rookhope, 15s. to 17s. Sweetland Creek, 6s. 3d., sellers. Tankerville, 9½ to 9¾. Thariss, 20½ to 20½; new shares, 14 to 14½. West Moystyn (pref.), 6s. to 7s. West Tankerville (pref.), 39s. to 41s. Young's Paraffin done at 12, closing 11½ to 12. Scottish Wagon done at 10½.

On TUESDAY more business done. Bedford United, 7s. 6d., buyers. Benhar done at 10½, 34s. 3d. and 10½, 7s. 6d., closing 10½ to 10½. Bolekow, Vaughan, A. 45½ to 46½. Canadian Copper Pyrites done at 22s. and 19s. 6d., closing 16s. to 19s.; Chontales, 6s. to 8s.; Clee Hill, 1s. 6d., sellers; Don Pedro, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d.; Ebbw Vale, done at 10, closing 10 to 10½. Emma done at 12s. 6d. Huntington 9½ to 15s. 6d., buyers. Huntington, 15s. to 17s. 6d. Javali, 6s. 3d. to 6s. 3d.; Kilfrith, 18s., buyers; Lechore and Capelrae, 6½ to 8½. Manland (pref.) done at 59s. Pennant Barytes, 70s. to 90s.; Pestarena United, 6s. 3d., sellers; ditto, preference, 20s., sellers. Richmond done at 9½, closing 9 to 9½; Sweetland Creek, 4s. to 6s. Thariss, done at 20½ and 20½, closing at these prices; new shares done at 14, closing 13½ to 14. Unity Wood, 27s. 6d., buyers; Uphall Oil, 7 to 8; West Cumberland Iron and Steel, 9½, sellers; West Tankerville, 37s. 6d., sellers; ditto, preference, 40s., sellers; Yorke Peninsula (ordinary), 7s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. Young's Paraffin done from 13½ to 13½, closing 12½ to 12½. Scottish Wagon done at 10½.

NEW COAL COMPANY.—Notwithstanding the present condition of the coal trade a new company, called the Clyde Coal Company (Limited), has just been formed. The share capital is 150,000, in shares of 10/ each, of which 83,000 is the purchase money for the mineral leases and mining plant. The coal fields to be worked are situated in the Bothwell and Hamilton districts of the Lanarkshire coal basin, and contain an area of about 1350 acres. They are most conveniently situated for Glasgow and the markets and shipping ports of the West. The seams of coals in the fields (except in Jerviston) are the Ell coal, the Proshaw, the Main coal, and the Splint coal. In Jerviston the seam is the Virtue Well coal. The colliery plant is of a character to command an output of over 2000 tons per working day, and it is believed the resources of the coal fields are sufficient to provide this output for the currency of the lease, but the incorporation of the company will admit of their extending their operations to other fields. It is expected coal will be got from some of the pits for the ensuing winter.

On WEDNESDAY market idle. Bedford United, 12s. 6d., buyers. Benhar (new), 6½ to 7½. Canadian Copper Pyrites done at 13s., closing 13s. to 14s.; ditto (new) done at 1s., closing 2s. 6d. to 3s. Chapel House, 40s. to 50s. Dalmey Oil done at 6½ to 7, closing 7 to 8; ditto (all paid), 10, sellers. Emma, 10s. to 15s. Gunplake (Clitters), 45s. to 55s. Javali, 6s. 3d., buyers. Pennerley, 32s. 6d., sellers. Prince of Wales, 7s. to 8s. Richmond done at 9½, closing 9½ to 9½. Santa Barbara, 34s. to 36s. Thariss done at 20½, 6s. 3d., closing 20½, 7s. 6d. to 8s. 9d.; new shares, 13½ to 14. Uphall Oil, 7½ to 8. Unity Wood, 27s. 6d. to 30s. Yorke Peninsula (ordinary), 7s. 6d. to 10s. Young's Paraffin done at 12½, closing 12½ to 12½.

Subjoined are this week's quotations, &c., of mining and metal shares quoted on the Scotch Stock Exchanges:—

Share.	Per. Paid.	Rate per cent.	Description of shares.	Last price.
100	10	10	COAL, IRON, STEEL.	
100	10	10	Arnlston Coal (Limited).....	7½
100	10	10	Benhar Coal (Limited).....	7½
100	10	10	Ditto.....	7½
100	10	10	Bolekow, Vaughan, and Co. (Lim.).....	49
100	10	10	Cairn-table Gas Coal (Limited).....	8
100	10	10	Chillington Iron (Limited).....	4½
100	10	10	Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron, and Coal (Lim.).....	10½
100	10	10	Fife Coal (Limited).....	3½
100	10	10	Glasgow Port Washington Iron & Coal (L).....	41s. 6d.
100	10	10	Ditto.....	41s. 6d.
100	10	10	Lechore and Capelrae (Limited).....	6½
100	10	10	Marbella Iron Ore (Limited).....	62s.
100	10	10	Monkland Iron and Coal (Limited).....	45s.
100	10	10	Ditto Guaranteed Preference.....	89s.
100	100	100	Nant-y-Glo & Blaenau Ironworks pref. (L).....	30
100	10	10	Omoa and Cleland Iron and Coal (Lim.).....	3s.
100	10	10	Scottish Australian Mining (Limited).....	30s.
100	10	10	Ditto New.....	6s. 6d.
100	10	10	Shotts Iron.....	6s.
100	10	10	Ditto New, issued at 2½ prem. 9½	
100	10	10	COPPER, SULPHUR, TIN.	
100	10	10	Canadian Copper Pyrites (Limited).....	13s.
100	10	10	Ditto (22 paid).....	2s. 6d.
100	10	10	Cape Copper (Limited).....	2s. 6d.
100	10	10	Dunsley Wheel Phoenix Tin (Limited).....	6d.
100	10	10	Glasgow Caradon Copper Mining (Lim.).....	28s. 6d.
100	10	10	Ditto New.....	20s.
100	10	10	Huntington Copper and Sulphur (Lim.).....	16s.
100	10	10	Kaouda Mining (Limited).....	24s.
100	10	10	Panulpho Copper (Limited).....	35s.
100	10	10	Rio Tinto (Limited).....	5
100	10	10	Ditto, 7 per cent. Mortgage Bonds.....	14
100	100	100	Do. & p. m. Deb. (Sp. Con. Bds.).....	53
100	10	10	Russian Copper (Limited).....	65s.
100	10	10	Thariss Copper and Sulphur (Limited).....	20½
100	10	10	Ditto New.....	14
100	10	10	Yorke Peninsula Mining (Limited).....	7s. 6d.
100	10	10	Ditto, 15 per cent. Guaranteed Pref. 17s. 6d.	
100	10	10	GOLD, SILVER.	
100	10	10	Australian Mines Investment (Limited), 8s. 9d.	
100	10	10	Emma Silver Mining (Limited).....	13s. 6d.

100	10	10	Flagstaff Silver Mining (Limited).....	55s.
100	10	10	Last Chance Silver Mining (Limited).....	10s.
100	10	10	Richmond Mining (Limited).....	9½
100	10	10	OIL.	
100	10	10	Dalmey Oil (Limited).....	7
100	10	10	Uphall Mineral Oil (Limited).....	7½
100	10	10	Young's Paraffin Light & Mineral Oil (L).....	12½
100	10	10	MISCELLANEOUS.	
100	10	10	London and Glasgow Engineering & Iron Shipbuilding (Limited).....	20
100	10	10	Peruvian Nitrate (Limited).....	12
100	10	10	Scottish Wagon (Limited).....	10½
100	10	10	Ditto New.....	87s. 6d.
100	10	10	Interim.....	1 Per share.

Last day for this account July 25; settling day, July 25.
NOTE.—The above lists of mines and auxiliary associations is as full as can be ascertained. Scotch companies only being inserted, or those in which Scotch investors are interested. In the event of any being omitted, and parties desiring a quotation for them and such information as can be ascertained from time to time to be inserted in these lists, they will be good enough to communicate the name of the company, with any other particulars as full as possible.

J. GRANT MACLEAN, Stock and Share Broker.
Post Office Buildings, Stirling, July 20.

UTILISATION OF ANTHRACITE SLACK.

Many attempts have been unsuccessfully made in America to introduce the Belgian system of utilising small coal in agglomerating anthracite with some suitable cementing material and pressure, but they have proved too expensive to permit of their application, except for the manufacture of domestic fuel. Mr. Wooten, the superintendent of the Reading Railroad, has, therefore, invented a process which requires neither mixture nor pressure. The culm is shoveled into the fire and burned by the aid of a blast. In stationary engines the ash pit is entirely closed, except a small hole in the bottom sufficient to admit the pipe conveying the blast. The grate, instead of being of bars, as usual, is of perforated sheet-iron. The blast is created by a small jet of steam, which is admitted through a pipe into another pipe about 20 times its diameter, and shaped like the frusta of two cones, apex to apex. The vacuum created by the steam escaping into this pipe causes an enormous draft of air. The pipe leading to the orifice is closed by a valve, held in place by a spring in such a way that the pressure of steam closes the valve, and so regulates the supply. The strength of the spring is regulated to a certain steam pressure, say 100 lbs. When the pressure has reached this point the supply of steam to the blast is shut off, and the fire is less fierce. On the reduction of the pressure the spring relaxes, and the blast acts again. There is also a valve that covers the mouth of the orifice leading into the fire-box, which also works automatically, closing the orifice when the blast is not working, and so preventing a waste of either volume or pressure of blast. Generally two or three blasts are used under the fire-box of an engine.

The invention has also been successfully tested on a locomotive and in a steam vessel. It was soon evident that if the ordinary exhaust of the locomotive was used for the blast it would be so strong as to carry the fuel up and out of the smoke stack, as well as being too irregular. The use of the exhaust is practically abandoned, and a blast is produced under the ash pan by a jet operated with the waste steam. In order to utilise the heat of the waste steam it is taken through a series of pipes, which act as a condenser of a steam-engine. The water from the tender passes through or around these pipes, and the water is heated. About one-third of the steam is condensed. The balance passes out by a pipe to the top of the stack, but finding no escape it passes by a 6-inch pipe down and through an annular ring, and back under the ash-pan, where it is used as a blast in the manner described. With regard to its economic results, Mr. Gowen states that 1 lb. of culm from ordinary coal, and of the ordinary run of waste, evaporated 8½ lbs. of water—within about 1½ of the result obtained from the same amount of best coal. Culm taken from a bank at the mouth of a pit that had been idle for 40 years evaporated 6½ lbs. of water for 1 lb. of fuel.

CANFIELD MINERAL DRESSER.

The mineral dresser, invented by Mr. F. A. CANFIELD, of Dover, New Jersey, is very favourably spoken of by Prof. T. Eggleston, of Columbia College, who says that the expense of the instrument is not large, and it will earn its cost to a collector in a very few weeks. The dresser consists of a cast-iron bed plate planed and slotted at one end to receive a movable head, and is slightly tapered at the other to allow of greater motion of the head round the pin upon which it moves. The head, also of cast-iron, is planed to fit the slot in the bed plate. On its side there is a projection fitted with a semicircular hole for receiving a clamp, which holds it in place when adjusted. The head is entirely of wrought iron; it is bulged slightly at one extremity to secure a steel screw, which is moved by a hand-wheel, and has a very slow motion. Both heads are bored out tapering to secure the cutting chisels, which may be made of any shape, so that the action of the machine may be made to be either that of a chisel or that of the shears. To use the machine the sliding head is freed. This is done by removing the steel wedge which holds the steel clamp in position. This clamp fits into notches in the under side of the bed-plate and into the circular slot in the back of the head, and is kept from falling by a brass spring. The specimen to be operated upon is placed between the two chisels, the screw having been previously run down so that the chisel of the head is slightly above that of the bed. The chisels are then turned at an angle so as to suit the specimen, and the movable head run up against the specimen. The clamp is then secured by the wedge. As the specimen is not tight between the chisels it is held in the hand while the head is being fastened. The screw is then slowly turned; this causes the chisel of the head to advance slightly. The two cutting surfaces being exactly opposite each other, the hardest rock will soon yield under the pressure, and will almost invariably be cut off square. If one hand is kept on the specimen when the cutting takes place it will be found that there is a slight jar at the moment the specimen is cut, but not sufficient to detach the most delicate crystals. Specimens containing very fragile crystals on both sides of a very hard rock have been cut in two, thus giving two specimens, when a single stroke of the hammer would have destroyed most of the crystals on both sides of the specimen. Since the introduction of this machine in November last the hammers and chisels of the School of Mines have been consigned to a drawer, as there is rarely occasion to use them, and we no longer fear to trim a specimen of any size, no matter how hard the rock or how delicate the crystals.

When the machine is to be used on soft rocks or in trimming fossils it is provided with a lever arm, which straddles the long arm of the head, and is fastened by means of a pin, which can easily be removed when the arm is not wanted. To use it the screw is turned up so that the long arm of the head rests on the bed-plate, the head is then adjusted, and by a series of quick movements toward the specimen the instrument is made to detach the rock. By changing the form of the chisel the two cutting surfaces may be made to act like shears, so as to cut specimens of shale exactly without breaking them. This instrument is invaluable to collectors of minerals and fossils, as it allows of the greatest precision in preparing specimens for the cabinet, since it is no longer necessary to dress a large quantity of superfluous rock for the sake of preserving a few crystals on it. To suit the varying shapes of specimens chisels of any shape or size can be made to fit the heads. It has been found, however, that three shapes are all that are necessary.

COAL AND IRON IN THE UNITED STATES.—The decrease in the production of pig-iron in the United States in 1875 as compared with 1874 was 422,832 tons, or more than 15 per cent. The following States, however, increased their production of pig-iron in 1875:—Maine, Virginia, Georgia, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin. The quantity of coal carried over the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad in the year ending Nov. 30, 1875, was 5,505,455 tons, as compared with 6,348,812 tons in the year ending Nov. 30, 1874. The total production of anthracite coal in Pennsylvania to June 24 this year was 7,720,534 tons, against 6,462,211 tons in the corresponding

period of 1875, showing an increase of 814,323 tons this year. The production of bituminous coal in Pennsylvania to June 24 this year was 1,598,417 tons, against 1,638,545 tons in the corresponding period of 1875, showing a decrease of 40,128 tons this year. The Chicago and North-Western Railway Company will lay 175 miles of steel rails upon its track this year. American iron rails have been quoted at the works at \$40 to \$43 per ton currency; old American iron rails have brought \$21 to \$22 per ton currency.

BRISTOL MINING SCHOOL.

BRISTOL MINING SCHOOL.
(Founded 1856.)
BOARD OF GOVERNORS:—THE COLSTON TRUSTEES.

This School is well equipped with Educational Illustrations and Appliances for Chemical Analysis and Assaying. The neighbourhood of Bristol is rich in subjects of Geological Instruction, and the Coal Owners of the Mines which surround the City very generously allow the Students to visit their mines for purposes of Study.

The next Session commences on the 2nd of October, 1876, and closes on the 26th of 1877; but students who desire to take the Laboratory Courses may enter upon their studies on the 31st of July, 1876, and are recommended to do so.

The full course of instruction extends over a period of two years, but students are received who may desire to terminate their studies at the end of their first Session.

The work of the School, while giving complete instruction in all subjects connected with Mining and Metallurgy, will be found to afford an effective preparation for the Government Examination for the Mine Manager's Certificate. The following are the subjects that are taught:—

I.—TO STUDENTS IN THEIR FIRST YEAR:—Mathematics, Descriptive Geometry, Machine Drawing, Surveying, Plotting, Theoretical Mechanics, Experimental Physics, Chemistry, Physical Geography, Mining (First Course), and Laboratory Practice.

II.—TO STUDENTS IN THEIR SECOND YEAR:—Mathematics, Descriptive Geometry, Building Construction, Surveying, Plotting, Applied Mechanics, Chemistry, Steam, Metallurgy, Mineralogy, Geology, Mining (Second Course), and Laboratory Practice.

The Tuesday of each week is spent in the field or mine, and considerable time is devoted to the plotting of surveys and to the drawing of Mine Machinery. The School is examined annually by the Department of Science and Art. The Fee is £10 per Session, to be paid in advance. This Fee is inclusive, except for the Three Laboratory Courses of Qualitative Analysis, Quantitative Analysis, and Assaying, the fee for which is £5 per course.

Students under fifteen years of age are not received. The Laboratory is open daily (except on Saturdays), between the hours of Ten and Five, for the instruction of those who are not members of the school in the theory and practice of Chemical Analysis and Assaying. The fee for this instruction is Five Guineas for a term of ten weeks.

There is also in the same Institution a School of Applied Science for Boys, which affords a suitable preparation for those whom it is intended to place in the Mining School or Laboratory.

For further information apply to the Registrar, Mr. WILLIAM BARGE, Merchants' Hall, Bristol, who will enter pupils and receive fees. Mr. Barge will also be able to give information as to lodgings.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND PRACTICAL SURVEYING.

A THOROUGH COURSE OF INSTRUCTION given in the above subjects, embracing also PRACTICAL MATHEMATICS and MECHANICS. LECTURES given in GEOLOGY, MINERALOGY, CHEMISTRY, &c., by eminent men. Resident or non-resident pupils received. High class references and terms to be had on application. Address, "C.E.," Stoney House, Howard-road, South Norwood, London, S.E.

COLLIERY WANTED.

WANTED, A GOOD WELL-APPOINTED GOING COLLIERY IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE OR DERBYSHIRE. Price ranging from £50,000 to £100,000. Address, with full particulars, to "C. Y. D.," MINING JOURNAL Office, 26, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

BLLENDE ORE.

WANTED, FOUR TO FIVE THOUSAND TONS OF BLENDE ORE, OF GOOD QUALITY. Address, stating price, terms, and average percentage (or an analysis of the ore), to "A. Y. Z.," MINING JOURNAL Office, 26, Fleet-street, London, E.C.

DISTRESS OF A SLATE QUARRY PROPRIETOR.

WANTED, £500 FOR ONE-FOURTH OF A SLATE QUARRY, £200 of which is to be spent in DEVELOPING the QUARRY. Slates of good quality could be had in course of a few weeks. Within less than three miles from Railway Station. Rare chance for making money. Address, "W.," Post Office, Bettws-y-Coed.

THE PESTARENA UNITED GOLD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

Notice is hereby given, that the ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders will be HELD at No. 6, Queen-street place, London, on THURSDAY, the 27th day of July, 1876, at Two o'clock P.M. precisely, to receive the accounts and balance sheet, made up to the 30th of September, 1875, together with the reports of the directors, the managers, and the agent at the mine, and for the transaction of the general business of the company.

At this meeting two directors—viz., W. W. Fisher, Esq., and H. J. S. Smith, Esq.—will retire from office by rotation, but are eligible for re-election, and offer themselves accordingly.

Mr. H. Swaffield, the auditor, also retires, and offers himself for re-election. By order of the Board, WM. H. ROWSE, Secretary, 6, Queen-street place, London, E.C., 17th July, 1876.

THE AUSTRALIAN MINING COMPANY.

Incorporated by Royal Charter. Notice is hereby given, that the THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the shareholders of this company will be HELD at the Colville Coffee House, Gresham-street, E.C., on MONDAY, the 3rd day of August, 1876, to receive the report, accounts, and balance sheet for the past year; to elect directors in lieu of Henry Collier and Walter J. C. Curtil, Esquires, who retire by rotation, and offer themselves for re-election; to fix the remuneration of the auditors for the past year; to elect auditors for the present year.

By order, GEORGE PALMER, Chairman. No. 1, Coleman-street Buildings, Moorgate-street, E.C., July 10, 1876. The Transfer books will be closed from the 17th to the 31st instant, both days inclusive.

ITALIAN SULPHUR COMPANY (LIMITED).

Take notice, that the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders will be HELD at the office of the Company, 4, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C., on TUESDAY, the 1st day of August, 1876, at half-past Two o'clock in the afternoon, to consider the Report and Balance-Sheet, to elect Directors and Auditors, to draw debentures for payment, and for the transaction of the general business of the Company.

On and after the 1st day of August, 1876, the bonds of this Company drawn for payment, and the coupons due 1st August, will be paid at the office of the Company, 4, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C.

By Order of the Board, R. LARCHIN, Secretary. Offices, 4, Finsbury Circus, London, E.C., July, 1876.

THE FRONTINO AND BOLIVIA (SOUTH AMERICAN) GOLD MINING COMPANY (LIMITED).

Notice is hereby given, that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders of the above-named company will be HELD at 134, Gresham House, Old Broad-street, London, on TUESDAY, the 1st day of August, 1876, at Two o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of considering the desirability of authorising the payment of the dividends of the company quarterly instead of half-yearly, as at present authorised by the Articles of Association of the company, and the following resolution will be proposed, viz.:—

Published by J. B. JONES, Bontport-street, Barnstaple, Devon, to whom all orders

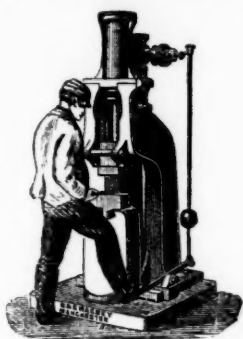
B. & S. MASSEY, OPENSHAW, MANCHESTER.

Prize Medals—Paris, 1867; Havre, 1868; Highland Society, 1870; Liverpool, 1871; Moscow, 1872; Vienna, 1873; Scientific Industry Society, 1875; Leeds, 1875; Paris, 1876.

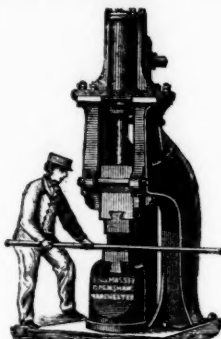
PATENTEES AND MAKERS OF DOUBLE AND SINGLE-ACTING

STEAM HAMMERS

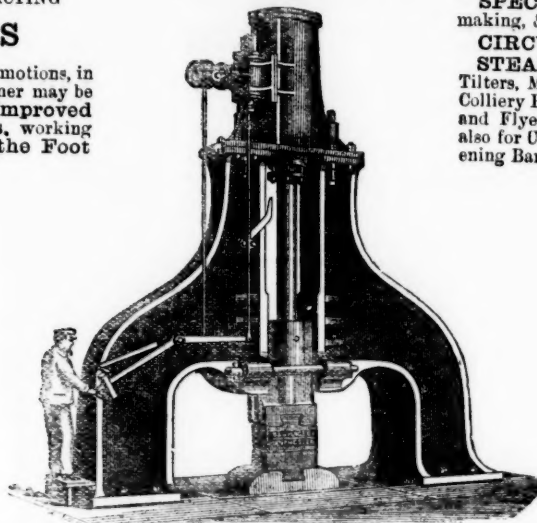
Of all sizes, from $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. to 20 tons, with self-acting or hand motions, in either case giving a perfectly DEAD BLOW, while the former may be worked by hand when desired. Large Hammers, with Improved Framing, in Cast or Wrought Iron. Small Hammers, working up to 500 blows per minute, in some cases being worked by the Foot of the Smith, and not requiring any separate Driver.



Small Hammer with Foot Motion.



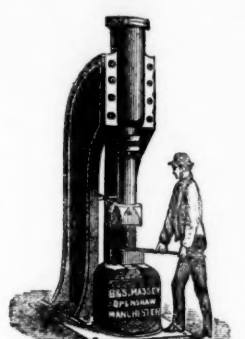
General Smithy Hammer.



Steam Hammer for Heavy Forging.



Special Steam Stamp.



General Smithy Hammer.

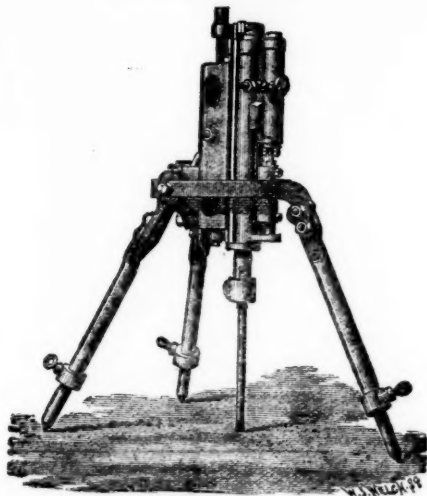
SPECIAL STEAM STAMPS, for Forging, Stamping, Punching, Bolt-making, &c.

CIRCULAR SAWS for Hot Iron.

STEAM HAMMERS for Engineers, Machinists, Shipbuilders, Steel Tilters, Millwrights, Copper-smiths, Railway Carriage and Wagon Builders, Colliery Proprietors, Ship Smiths, Bolt Makers, Cutlers, File Makers, Spindle and Flyer Makers, Spade Makers, Locomotive and other Wheel Makers, &c. also for Use in Repairing Smithies of Mills and Works of all kinds; for straightening Bars, bending Cranks breaking Pig-iron, &c.

From 60 to 100 Steam Hammers and Steam Stamps may usually be seen in construction at the Works.

THE "CHAMPION" ROCK BORER For Tunnels, Mines, Quarries, AND OTHER WORKS.



Intending purchasers can satisfy themselves that the advantages claimed for the "CHAMPION" over all other Rock Borers are not over-estimated.

For the amount of work it will do, it is the lightest, most compact, most durable, and cheapest in the market.

IMPROVED AIR COMPRESSORS, And other MINING MACHINERY.

ULLATHORNE & CO.,
METROPOLITAN BUILDINGS,
63, QUEEN VICTORIA STREET, LONDON, E.C.

THE PHOSPHOR BRONZE COMPANY (LIMITED).



139, CANNON STREET, E.C.
LONDON.

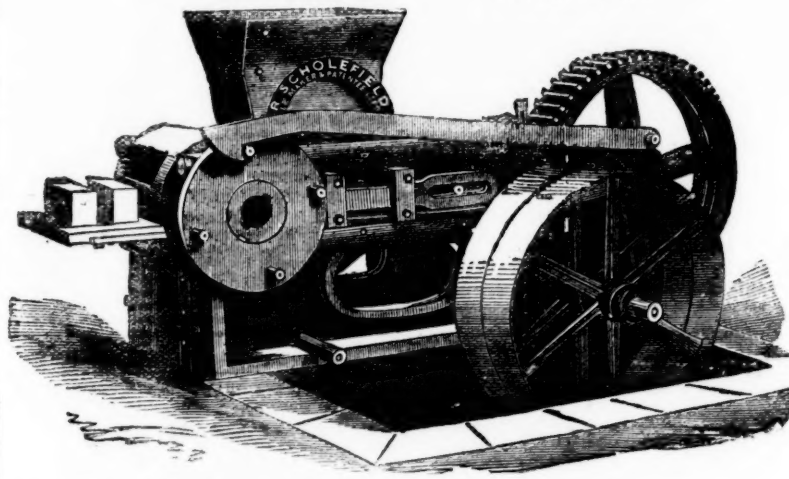
Alloy, No. II., for pinions, ornamental castings, steam fittings, &c. £120 per ton.
" No. IV., for pinions, pumps, valves, linings, cylinders, &c. 130 "
" No. VI. (must be cast in chill) for bolts, &c. 140 "
This alloy has very great tensile strength ... 140 "
" No. VII., for hydraulic pumps, valves, and plungers, piston rings, bushes and bearings, for steel shafts 140 "
" No. XI., special phosphor-bronze bearing metal, wearing five times as long as gun metal 112
The prices of castings vary according to the pattern, the quantity required, and the alloy used.

WIRE ROPES, TUBES OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS, &c.

THOMAS TURTON AND SONS,
MANUFACTURERS OF
CAST STEEL FOR PUNCHES, TAPS, and DIES
TURNING TOOLS, CHISELS, &c.
CAST STEEL PISTON RODS, CRANK PINS, CONNECTING RODS, STRAIGHT and CRANK AXLES, SHAFTS and
FORGINGS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
DOUBLESHEAR STEEL, FILE MARKED
BLISTER STEEL, T. TURTON
SPRING STEEL, EDGE TOOLS MARKED
GERMAN STEEL, WM. GRAVES & SON
Locomotive Engine, Railway Carriage and Wagon Springs and Buffers.
SHEAF WORKS AND SPRING WORKS, SHEFFIELD.
LONDON WAREHOUSE, 35, QUEEN STREET, CANNON STREET, CITY, E.C.
Where the largest stock of steel, files, tools, &c., may be selected from.

R. SCHOLEFIELD'S LATEST PATENT BRICK-MAKING MACHINE.

PATENTED 1873.



R. S. begs to call the attention of all Colliery Owners in particular to his PATENT SEMI-DRY BRICK MACHINE, and the economical method of making bricks by his patent machinery from the refuse that is taken from the pits during the process of coal-getting, which, instead of storing at the pit's mouth (and making acres of valuable land useless), is at once made into bricks, at a very small cost, by R. S.'s Patent Brick-making Machinery. If the material is got from the pit hill, the following is about the cost of

production, and the hands required to make 10,000 pressed bricks per day:—

2 men digging, each 4s. per day	8 0
1 man grinding, 4s. 6d. per day	0 4 6
1 boy taking off bricks from machine, and placing them in barrow ready for the kiln, 2s. per day	0 2 0
1 boy greasing, 1s. 6d. per day	0 1 6
1 engine-man, 5s. per day	0 8 0
1 man wheeling bricks from machine to kiln, 4s. per day	0 4 0

Total cost of making 10,000 pressed bricks ... £15 0, or 2s. 6d. per 1000.

(SETTING AND BURNING SAME PRICE AS HAND-MADE BRICKS.)

N.B.—Where the material can be used as it comes from the pit, the cost will be reduced in digging. As the above Machinery is particularly adapted for the using up of shale, blud, &c., it will be to the advantage of all Colliery Owners to adopt the use of the said Brick-making Machinery.

THE MACHINES CAN BE SEEN IN OPERATION AT THE WORKS OF THE SOLE MAKER AND PATENTEE DAILY. SCHOLEFIELD'S ENGINEERING & PATENT BRICK MACHINE WORKS. KIRKSTAL ROAD, LEEDS.

STONE'S PATENT [GROUND GLASS] BOILER COATING.

THE MOST EFFECTIVE IN USE, AND IMPERISHABLE

STONE'S PATENT METAL CASING for Stationary & Marine Boilers

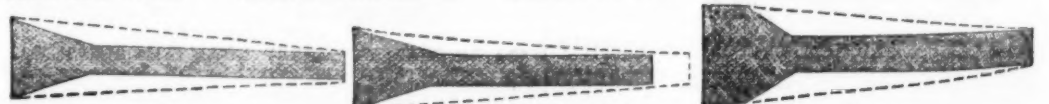
may be used with any coating, and is by far the greatest economiser of heat yet introduced.

With the two combined only 7 degrees of heat is lost from the boiler, and the boiler-room kept at a temperature of only 17 degrees above the outer air.

For further particulars, apply to THE MANAGER, 167, 169, GRAY'S INN ROAD, LONDON, or to any of the following Agents:—

BRYAN JOHNSON, C.E., Chester.
EDWARD JOHNSON, No. 2, York-buildings, Dale-street, Liverpool.
THOMAS HANNAY, No. 21, St. Vincent-place, Glasgow.
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PERSHOUSE PARKES, Castle-street, Tipton.
T. SMITHDALE AND SONS, St. Anne's Ironworks, Norwich.
R. PATTERSON AND SONS, Belfast.

TO COLLIERY PROPRIETORS. IMPROVED "REGISTERED" SECTIONS OF SCREEN STEEL.



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No. 3.

THE DOTTED LINES SHOW THE ORDINARY SECTION, AND THE DARK GROUND THE IMPROVED SECTIONS.—A saving of at least 20 per cent. is effected by the great reduction in weight of material.—For price and particulars apply to—

JOEL EATON WALKER, STEEL MERCHANT, SHEFFIELD.

NOTICE.—These Sections are Registered

NOBEL'S DYNAMITE

Is the MOST ECONOMICAL and POWERFUL EXPLOSIVE for every kind of MINING and QUARRYING OPERATIONS; for blasting in hard or soft, wet or dry ROCKS; for clearing land of TREE ROOTS and BOULDER STONES; for rending massive BLOCKS of METAL; for SUBAQUEOUS and TORPEDO purposes; and for recovering or clearing away of WRECKS, &c. ITS SAFETY is evidenced by the total ABSENCE OF ACCIDENTS in transit and storage; it is insensible to heavy shocks, its GIANT POWER being only fully developed when fired with a powerful percussion detonator, and hence its great safety. As a SUBSTITUTE FOR GUNPOWDER its advantages are the GREAT SAVING OF LABOUR, rapidity and INCREASE OF WORK done, FEWER and smaller BORE-HOLES required, greater depth blasted, safety in use NO DANGER FROM TAMPING, absence of smoke, unaffected by damp, &c.

For information, apply to the—

BRITISH DYNAMITE COMPANY (LIMITED), GLASGOW;

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THE BEST EXPLOSIVE KNOWN FOR EVERY KIND OF QUARRYING, MINING, TUNNELLING, AND SUBAQUEOUS OPERATIONS.

UNRIVALLED FOR STRENGTH, SAFETY, AND FREEDOM FROM GASES.

EXPORT ORDERS DELIVERED FREE ON BOARD IN THE THAMES. PAMPHLETS ON APPLICATION.

Responsible Agents for the Country Districts can apply to—

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MINING MACHINERY AND TOOLS.

THE TUCKINGMILL FOUNDRY COMPANY,

85, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C. WORKS: TUCKINGMILL.

MANUFACTURERS of every description of MINING MACHINERY, TOOLS, MILLWORK, PUMPING, WINDING, & STAMPING ENGINES.

SOLE MAKERS OF

BORLASE'S PATENT ORE-DRESSING MACHINES AND PULVERISERS.

PRICE LISTS CAN BE HAD ON APPLICATION, AND

SPECIAL QUOTATIONS WILL BE GIVEN UPON INDENTS AND SPECIFICATIONS.

TUCKINGMILL FOUNDRY AND ROSEWORTHY HAMMER MILLS

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THE DARLINGTON ROCK BORER.

No VALVE—BLOW obtained by the movement of the PISTON.

IN USE IN FRANCE, GERMANY, SPAIN, AND ELSEWHERE.

Rock Borers, Air Compressors, and Electric Blasting Apparatus.

Sole Agents and Manufacturers for France.—The Blanz Mining Company,

WHERE BORERS MAY BE SEEN IN OPERATION.

For letter of introduction, particulars, &c., apply to—

JOHN DARLINGTON,

2, COLEMAN STREET BUILDINGS, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.

BARROWS & STEWART, ENGINEERS, BANBURY,

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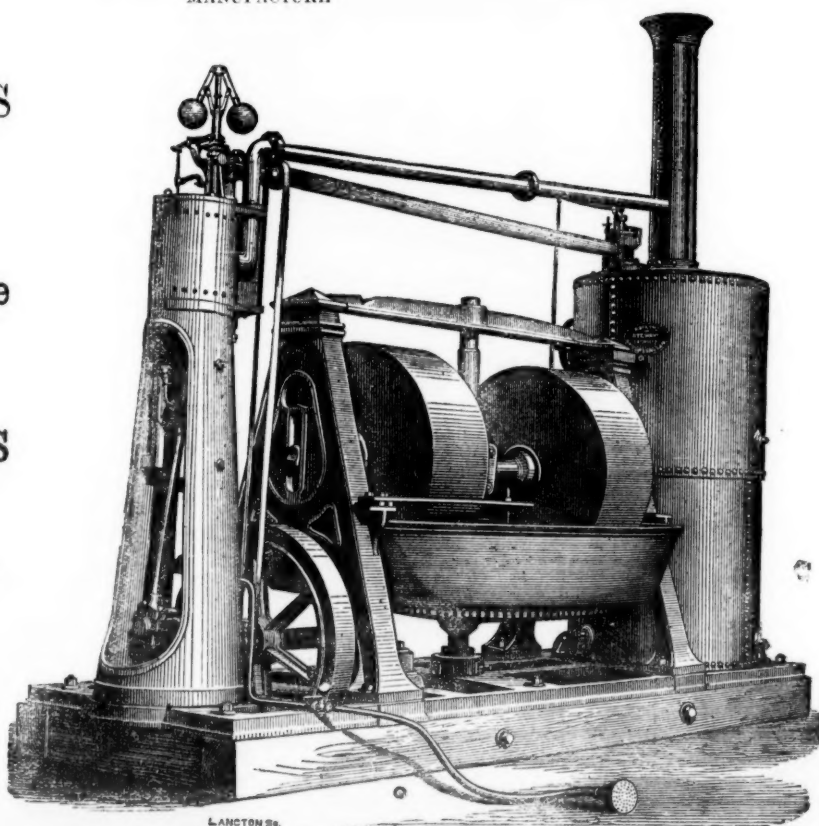
Steam Engines

With Gear for
Winding,
Pumping, and Ore
crushing.

ALSO,

COMBINED MILLS

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with or without
BOILERS,
for Grinding
Cinders, Sand,
Mortar, &c.



"Kainotomon" Rock Drill

SELECTED BY THE

BRITISH, PRUSSIAN, & SAXON
GOVERNMENTS.



SUPERIOR

AIR-COMPRESSORS,

COAL-CUTTERS,
PUMPS,

AND

MINING MACHINERY of every
description.

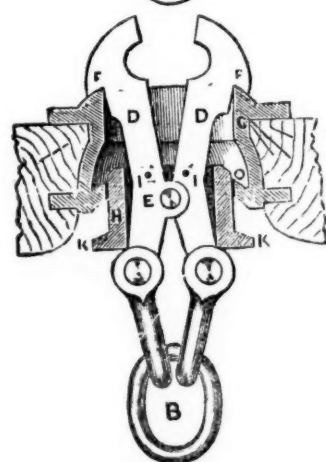
T. A. WARRINGTON,

30, King-street, Cheapside,
LONDON, E.C.

OVERWINDING IMPOSSIBLE.

WALKER'S DETACHING HOOK,

FOR COLLIERIES AND BLAST-FURNACE HOISTS.



SIX LIVES SAVED.

Walker's Hook, at Tockett's sinking, has saved six men's lives. On the 6th instant, the kibble was overwound, and but for the hook would have fallen down the pit, where six men were working, 120 ft. below, all of whom would probably have been killed. Thanks, however, to Mr. Walker's invention, the rope alone passed harmlessly over, the kibble remained suspended, and in half-an-hour everything was working as if nothing had occurred.—From the Northern Echo August 20, 1874.

Full particulars may be obtained from the Manufacturers.—

THOMAS WALKER AND SON,
58, OXFORD STREET, BIRMINGHAM

THE GREAT ADVERTISING MEDIUM FOR WALES.

THE SOUTH WALES EVENING TELEGRAM
(DAILY), and
SOUTH WALES GAZETTE
(WEEKLY), established 1867.

the largest and most widely circulated papers in Monmouthshire and South Wales
CHIEF OFFICES—NEWPORT, MON.; and at CARDIFF.

The "Evening Telegram" is published daily, the first edition at Three P.M., the second edition at Five P.M. On Friday, the "Telegram" is combined with the "South Wales Weekly Gazette," and advertisements ordered for not less than six consecutive insertions will be inserted at an uniform charge in both papers. P. O. O. and cheques payable to Henry Russell Evans, 14, Commercial-street Newport, Monmouthshire.

NON-DIVIDEND

JULY 22, 1876.

IRON AND COAL COMPANIES.

Shares.	Company.	Paid.	Pre-
\$100	Abbot, John, and Co. [L.].....	\$75 0 0	14 1/2
15	Albion Steel and Wire Co. [L.]	13 10 0	14 1/2
5	Altamont Colliery Co. [L.]	5 0 0	—
100	Anshury Co. [L.]	5 0 0	—
10	Ragnall, John, and Sons [L.]	90 0 0	—
10	Benhar Coal Co. [L.]	10 0 0	—
60	Bilbao Iron Ore Co. [L.]	10 0 0	—
10	Hilton & Crump Co. [L.]	20 0 0	—
4	Blaen Cwmbach Meadow Coll. Co. [L.]	20 0 0	—
100	Blaenavon Iron and Steel Co. [L.]	10 0 0	—
100	Bolckow, Vaughan, and Steel Co. [L.]	4 0 0	—
60	Bowling Iron Co. [L.]	40 0 0	—
60	Britannia Ironworks [L.]	40 0 0	—
50	Brown, Bailey, and Dixon [L.]	28 0 0	—
100	Brown, Johns, and Co. [L.]	40 0 0	—
5	Cakemore Colliery Co. [L.]	70 0 0	—
100	Cammell and Co. [L.]	5 0 0	—
20	Carmock and Co. [L.]	5 0 0	—
10	Cardiff & Swansea St. Coal Co. [L.]	2 0 0	—
10	Cardigan Steel and Wire Co. [L.]	8 0 0	—
10	Central Swedish Iron and Steel [L.]	8 10 0	—
50	Chapel House Colliery	8 0 0	—
60	Charlton Iron Co. [L.]	40 0 0	—
10	Chatterley Iron Co. [L.]	40 0 0	—
10	Chillingham Iron Co. [L.]	40 0 0	—
10	Clonsilla Hill Colliery Co. [L.]	10 0 0	—
10	Consent Iron Co. [L.]	1 0 0	—
10	Consent Spanish Ore [L.]	7 10 0	—
20	Cooke, William, and Co. [L.]	1 0 0	—
0	Darlington Iron Co. [L.]	30 0 0	—
5	Davy Brothers [L.]	1 0 0	—
5	Diamond Fuel Co. [L.]	22 10 0	—
2	Ebbw Vale Co. [L.]	4 10 0	—
5	Fox, Samuel, and Co. [L.]	20 0 0	—
10	General Mining Assn. [L.] (Retired)	80 0 0	—
10	Great Western Coal Co. [L.]	17 0 0	—
10	Gwynegwillim Colliery Co. [L.]	3 0 0	—
10	Hopkins, Gilkes, and Co. [L.]	11 0 0	—
10	Ifton Rhyn Colliery Co. [L.]	10 0 0	—
10	Knowles, Andrew, and Sons [L.]	17 0 0	—
10	Llay Hall Coal, Iron, & Firebrick [L.]	10 0 0	—
10	Little-den Woodside Coll. Co. [L.]	5 0 0	—
10	Llynny, Ogmore, & Tondou Co. [L.]	80 0 0	—
10	Mabrella and Wigpool Iron Ore [L.]	7 5 0	—
10	Mersey Steel and Iron Co. [L.]	10 0 0	—
10	Midland Iron Co. [L.]	8 0 0	—
10	Mold Argued Colliery Co. [L.]	8 0 0	—
10	Monkland Iron and Coal Co. [L.]	10 0 0	—
10	Gwyny Iron Ore and Coal Co. [L.]	8 10 0	—
10	Ant-y-Glo and Blaifra (S p.c. pref.)	100 0 0	—
10	Erubudda Coal and Iron [L.]	30 0 0	—
10	New Sharlston Collieries [L.] Pref.	30 0 0	—
10	Newport Abernaw Colliery [L.]	8 0 0	—
10	Northfield Iron Co. [L.]	8 0 0	—
10	Porter's Green Coal Co. [L.]	1 0 0	—
10	Porter's Shipbuilding and Iron [L.]	28 0 0	—
10	Parkgate Iron Co. [L.]	58 0 0	—
10	Pen-y-Bont and Bolt Co. [L.]	14 0 0	—
10	Pen-y-Bont Shaft and Axletree [L.]	15 0 0	—
10	Pen-y-Bont Small Coal and Iron [L.]	40 0 0	—
10	Pen-y-Bont Bessemer Co. [L.]	40 0 0	—
10	Pen-y-Bont Iron Co. [L.]	40 0 0	—

Well Park Colliery Co. [L.]	100	0 0	21	22
Ditto New	10	0 0	—	—
ts Iron Co. [L.]	50	0 0	—	—
phridge Iron and Coal [L.]	50	0 0	2	3
Stone & Dodsworth Cl. & Iron [L.]	55	0 0	11	3
es Ironworks [L.]	27	0 0	6	12
orrosto Iron Co. [L.]	20	0 0	13 1/2	12
es Wales Coal Co. [L.]	50	0 0	—	—
ley Iron and Coal Co. [L.]	17	0 0	—	—
Ditto	50	0 0	24	35
Cleveland Ironworks [L.] New	10	0 0	25 1/2	6
es Valley Steam Coll. Co. [L.]	20	0 0	—	—
es Iron Company	8	0 0	—	—
gar Iron and Coal Co. [L.]	100	0 0	—	—
Ditto B. shares	12	0 0	3	1
ton Mining Co. [L.]	35	0 0	—	—
Bituminous Collieries [L.]	12	0 0	1 1/2	1
arer Coal [L.]	1	0 0	—	—
s, Sons, & Co. [L.] 3 p.c. deb.	100	0 0	1 1/2	2 1/2
Ironworks Co. [L.]	50	0 0	par	1
berland L. and Steel [L.]	20	0 0	—	—
ostyn Coal [L.] (12 p.c. pref.)	5	0 0	—	—
Wansae Colliery Co. [L.]	8	0 0	—	—
aven Iron Co. [L.]	5	0 0	—	—
and Whiston Coal Co. [L.]	10	0 0	—	—
Coal and Iron Co. [L.]	70	0 0	—	—
	75	0 0	—	—

WAGON COMPANIES.

ham Wagon Co. [L.]	10	0 0	21	22
Wagon Co. [L.]	10	0 0	2 1/2	3 1/2
Wagon Co. [L.]	15	0 0	2 1/2	3 1/2
e Wagon Co. [L.]	10	0 0	2 1/2	3 1/2

TELEGRAPH COMPANIES.

American

Marine	100	0 00	48	84
United States Cab's	10	0 00	55	6
	10	0 00	7	8
to, Australia and China.	10	0 00	8	84
to, Southern	10	0 00	8	84
can	10	0 00	8	84
can Extension	28	0 00	13	8
	10	0 00	3	8
	8	0 00	11	13
and Panama	100	0 00	206	218
Brazilian	10	0 00	4	1
on, 7 per cent. Mort. Bonds	100	0 00	5	10
	1000	0 00	197	19
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Great Western Leased				
al Trust	100	0 00	38	42
Land and Finance [L.]	8	0 00	3	34
ne [L.]	21	10 00	8	1
Ohio, 4 per cent.	7	0 00	4	3
Jersey Con. Mort.	100	0 00	113	114
Calif., 1st Mort. 5 p. c.	100	0 00	92	81
Real Property [L.]	100	0 00	94	88
of Eng. (7 p. c. p. c.)	12	0 00	5	48
of England [L.]	25	0 00	1	48
Boring	5	0 00	1	1
Foreign Credit	4	10 00	14	14
nechese [L.]	8	0 00	6	8
and Co. [L.]	14	0 00	10	11
Chem. Works Co. [L.]	19	10 00	10	11
Stone Quarry	8	0 00	—	—
company	1	0 00	—	—
per and Sul. Co.	9	0 00	—	—
100 shares	100	0 00	88	8
is Bridge, 1st Mort.	100	0 00	55	41
, 7 per cent.	100	0 00	55	41
ing Fund, 5 p. cent.	100	0 00	90	84
[L.]	100	0 00	119	123
ertificate	7	10 00	7	7
Mort., A. & p. cent.	100	0 00	74	74
[L.]	10	0 00	11	13
Company, 6 p. cent.	5	0 00	9	9
Company	10	0 00	81	84
[L.]	5	0 00	6	6
ental Steam	50	0 00	3	3
6 p. cent. 1910	50	0 00	3	3

and, 6 p. ct.	1905	100	0	0	133	134
Investment Company.	1905	100	0	0	153	155
Preferences	1905	100	0	0	117	122
h.)		10	0	0	—	—
		20	0	0	20	25
and Maintenance (E.).	1912	20	0	0	25	25
Three per Cent		5	0	0	25	25
Copper Co.	1910	10	0	0	20	20
Grant, 1st Mort.	1905	100	0	0	93	94
y, 1st Mort.	1905	100	0	0	91	91

Copper; g, gold; l, lead; s, silver; d, steel;
 e, emerald; t, tin; z, zinc.
 Panes; 1 quoted on the Stock Exchange.
 have paid dividends.

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